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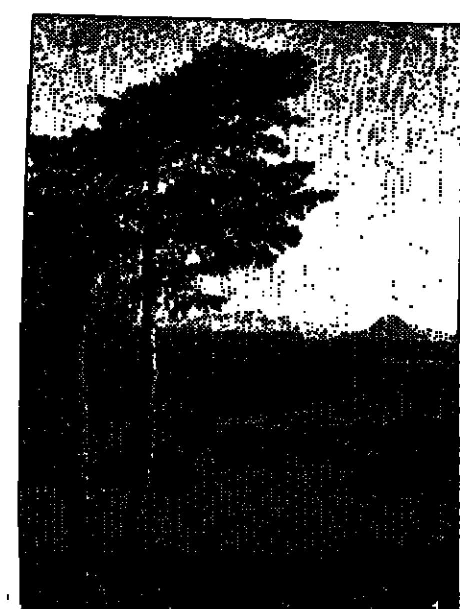
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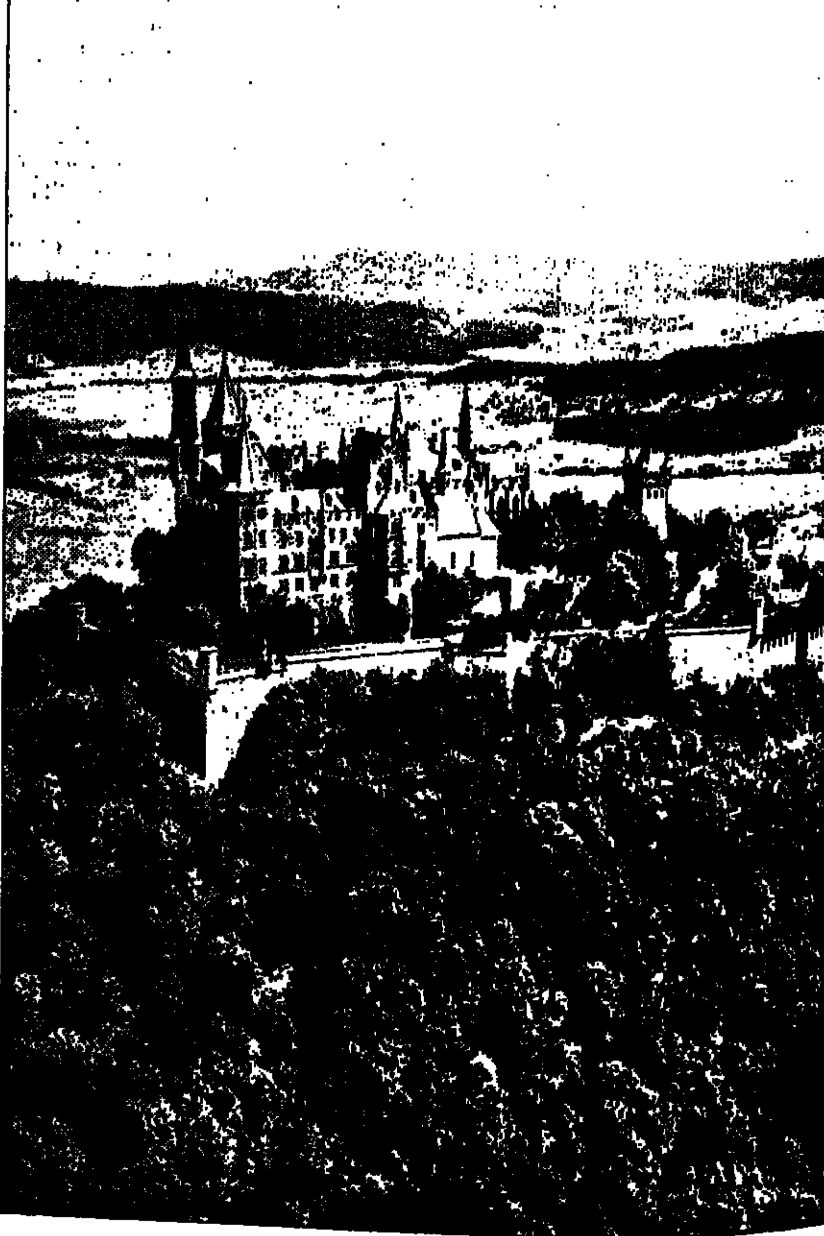
1 View of the Hegau region, near Tuttlingen
2 Heidenheim
3 Nördlingen
4 Urach
5 Hohenzollern Castle











The German Tribune

burg, 4 November 1984
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Bid to create a new European dimension to Atlantic pact

DIE ZEIT

An unusual gathering of Cabinet Ministers from seven Western European countries was at the time of writing on the point of carrying out an ambitious project in Rome.

The aim was to organise a more independent European approach within the North Atlantic pact and to gain more equal status in dealings with the United States.

For well over 20 years the idea has made the rounds of Western European capitals as an indispensable necessity: a genuine partnership.

It is the idea of a "second, European pillar" of the Western alliance. In the early 1960s it was even supported, surprisingly, by President Kennedy.

But the wish never got as far as the stage of real change. Only now do European member-countries of Nato plan to get down to brass tacks.

The treaty basis for what the Ministers have in mind in Rome is the Western European Union, founded 30 years ago in Brussels and since left to slumber in peace and quiet.

Its seven members are Britain and France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy and the Benelux countries. All are members of both Nato and the European Community.

This alone indicates how delicate the situation is and how difficult it is to set up a forum and a treaty framework for greater independent responsibility engaged in security policy without offending others.

Within the Western alliance such arrangements have for the most part been ruled out since France resigned from the military organisation of Nato in 1966.

Paris is keen to avoid as much as creating the impression that it might be considering returning contritely to the fold.

On the other hand the self-evident and politically more symbolic approach via the European Community proved impassable.

It would naturally have been in accordance with the logic of integration policy to increasingly fit out the European Community with the status of a political union, including in the final analysis responsibility for external security, if Europe was to amount to more than a customs union with political trimmings.

At the end of last May President Mitterrand of France told the European Parliament a common defence policy was one of the requirements of a European Community with increasingly close ties.

Yet in the same breath he conceded that such a project was beset by "extraordinary difficulties."

Everyone knows that three EEC countries are not interested in plans of this kind. They are Ireland, which is not a Nato member, and Denmark and Greece, both of which are keen for domestic reasons to keep their distance from the North Atlantic pact.

So the solution is to limit the exercise to seven countries with similar interests who are, even if they have so far made little use of the fact, all members of the Western European Union.

By its treaty terms the WEU is a defence pact with a strict commitment to mutual support in the event of attack, and therein lies a distinct advantage.

The WEU concept is most intriguing, partly putting into effect the much-vaunted idea of a "two-speed Europe" in which, for the sake of progress toward integration, not all member-countries are committed to the same obligations on every count.

In much the same manner the European Monetary System was set up, outside the EEC framework but backed by the majority of EEC member-countries.

European Political Cooperation, an arrangement that is coming on well and was similarly not foreseen by the Treaty of Rome, also came about by voluntary association.

Views may differ on what the WEU will in future be first and foremost: either a European bloc within the Western alliance or an exclusive security policy variation on the European Community.

France is the undisputed architect of the WEU arrangement, but the seven-member union unlike earlier French plans is not aimed against either America or Nato.

The WEU lacks a military substructure of its own and there are no plans to set up a general staff of any kind. In keeping with the WEU Treaty all military defence tasks will continue to be allotted to the North Atlantic pact.

Since no-one is questioning this brief, Washington after brief doubts had little difficulty in agreeing to a European attempt to attain greater security policy independence.

The Americans have long wanted some such development to occur. They have hopes of a Europe speaking with one voice in Nato, and in the final analysis, whether rightly or wrongly, they expect Europe to make a greater contribution toward the defence of the West. Moscow in contrast has fulminated against the reactivation of the WEU, particularly objecting to the WEU scrapping the last and practically meaningless ban on arms manufacture in the Federal Republic (that of bombers and long-range missiles).

The crucial factor is surely that Bonn's undertaking to dispense with nuclear, biological and chemical weapons remains strictly in force.

In Europe itself the WEU renaissance as envisaged has not met with universal acclaim. When Paris submitted a memorandum on its plans for the organisation in the New Year Britain for one was shaken.

British officials only endorsed the plans when they realised they might otherwise miss out on a development there would be no stopping.

WEU Foreign and Defence Ministers, meeting in the Italian capital with Bonn's Hans-Dietrich Genscher in the chair, are to approve a Rome Declaration outlining in 10 points the political philosophy and the aims and tasks of the Western European Union.

The emphasis is on the following four points:

- First, the WEU is to strengthen peace and security, mainly by means of the unity and consensus of its members and by encouraging further progress toward European integration.

Interests that politically and geographically are specifically European are to be concentrated to boost transatlantic security policy cooperation.

This is envisaged in respect of both deterrence and defence capacity. Defence itself is to be left to Nato.

- Second, security in the treaty area of the North Atlantic pact is to be indivisible. Defence efforts on the one hand are to be accompanied by readiness for dialogue and cooperation with the East, as laid down in the 1960s by the still valid twofold strategy outlined in the Harmel Report.

The WEU is to concentrate on dialogue, including arms control and disarmament, on which closer collaboration with the United States is envisaged.

- Third, European potential and reserves are to be put to more effective use by means of still more intensive cooperation, including cooperation in arms capacity.

In addition to lending a stimulus to joint projects the WEU aims at striking an appropriate balance in transatlantic arms shipments. At present America sells seven times more arms to Europe than Europe sells to America.

- Fourth, the WEU is in formulating Europe's identity and interests to become a forum for political discussion of international hot spots beyond Nato boundaries and their effect on Europe.

This arrangement corresponds in equal measure to American wishes and European interests. But the Seven are establishing for their security policy cooperation not just an entirely new dimension but an explosive problem.

It inevitably includes, intentionally or not, the issue of a military presence outside Nato territory.

Britain and France (and, in Lebanon, Italy) have hitherto acted strictly as they saw fit in areas beyond the territorial scope of Nato, whereas Bonn has exercised strict restraint.

It remains to be seen what shape military activity in the Third World may take within the WEU framework and how fellow-members may view Germany's abstinence.

An appendix to the main document conveys some idea of how the WEU's organisation must be reshuffled to use

Continued on page 2

New Bundestag Speaker named

Philipp Jenninger, 52, talking to the Press in Bonn, has been named to succeed Rainer Barzel as Speaker of the Bundestag. Jenninger, a close aide of Chancellor Kohl, has been in charge of relations with East Germany. (The Barzel Affair, pages 3 and 4). (Photo: dpa)

IN THIS ISSUE

■ WORLD AFFAIRS

Soviet Union looks again at Middle East

The Soviet Union plans to re-establish its influence in the Middle East.

It wants to move into the gap left by the United States after its enforced withdrawal from Lebanon and the ensuing loss of US prestige.

In doing so, Moscow intends regaining political ground lost long ago, say in the days of President Sadat.

The Soviet Union has re-established normal relations with Egypt, which is a significant step because Cairo has long ended its isolation in the Arab world and regained respectability.

Soviet diplomats are not, it is only fair to add, popular in the Egyptian capital.

One way of boosting Russia's reputation and influence in the region is the idea of an international conference on the Middle East that has long been favoured by the Kremlin.

The aim of the conference is to settle the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians — with Soviet participation, of course.

The conference plan will probably have played a major role in talks held with Arab politicians who have lately visited Moscow.

It is sure to be reiterated when King Hussein of Jordan visits the Kremlin — a visit President Assad of Syria evidently sought to prevent in his talks with the *Soviet leaders.*

The Syrian leader, who seems to be in good health again, is in any case a problem for his Soviet allies. He refuses to dance to their tune.

References to agreement and fraternal relations after his visit failed to paper over the fact that his differences of opinion with the Kremlin leaders are substantial.

The Soviet Union would like to see Assad make his peace with the Iraqi President at long last. Soviet-backed radical policies toward Israel would be greatly strengthened if Syria and Iraq, countries with the same socialist ideology, were to join forces.

But President Assad is not prepared to consider the idea as, in addition to personal rivalries, he cannot forgive Saddam Hussein Iraq's gradual rapprochement with moderates in the Arab world.

There already are rumours that Baghdad is shortly to resume diplomatic ties with Egypt, which was long considered beyond the pale.

President Assad feels that would be intolerable. He, much to Moscow's chagrin, sees the Islamic revolutionaries led by Ayatollah Khomeini and Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani as his allies.

He also expresses regret over Soviet arms supplies to Iraq.

In keeping with Soviet wishes the Syrian leader advocated in Moscow the "unity of the Palestinian movement," but that does not by a long chalk mean he has either forgiven Yasser Arafat or is prepared to see him once more as the major representative of the PLO.

As the Palestinians themselves are not in a position to get together round a conference table to discuss their affairs and future policy in detail, President Assad's attitude can to some extent be understood.

Much though the Syrian leader may need Soviet support, he well realises that he cannot afford to allow himself to become a Soviet satellite with no will of his own.

He heads the Syrian regime as the representative of a religious minority, so he cannot afford to throw in his lot entirely with Moscow in a country where Sunni fundamentalism has regained ground.

His invitation to Mr Chernenko to visit Damascus will not have been welcomed by fundamentalists in the Arab world.

But the Soviet Union is not banking solely on Assad. It has resumed activity in the southern half of the Arab peninsula, plans to bring the two Yemens closer together and aims to enlist Sanaa's support.

This is a long-range target. Even Marxist-ruled South Yemen, which has so far been rated a Soviet ally, has not always been a source of pleasure unalloyed for the Kremlin.

Getting on with the Arabs, who are a proud nation, is easier said than done even for the Soviet Union. But the North Yemen President on his visit to Moscow was at least prepared to testify to friendship with the Soviet Union.

That must have caused the Saudi princes in Riyadh sleepless nights. There is little they fear more than unification of the two Yemens to a state or a federation under Soviet influence.

That would not only mean a strengthening of the Soviet position at the entrance to the Red Sea. A united Yemen would have a much larger population than Saudi Arabia.

But it is unlikely to happen. The occupation of Afghanistan by Russian troops is a fact that overshadows most of the efforts undertaken by the Kremlin in the Arab world even though the West may at times have the feeling that Arab protests against this injustice are low-pitched.

Besides, the chances of a genuine Soviet comeback are poorer than they were in Nasser's day because of the influence of Muslim extremists throughout the Middle East, an influence all rulers in the region must bear in mind.

In Nasser's day the outlook for Moscow was much more favourable in many Arab countries. Nationalism, secularism and a vague socialism fascinated Arab leaders.

But those days are now over. The Soviet Union's difficulties in the Middle East are just as serious as the Americans'.

Wolfgang Günter Lerch

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 23 October 1984)

Wider implications of visit to Bonn by Ceausescu

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

The controversial issue of ethnic Germans in Rumania was not settled during the visit of Rumanian leader Nicolae Ceausescu to Bonn.

Agreement on the final message about the controversial issue was not reached.

Bonn wants ethnic Germans in Rumania to be allowed to emigrate to the Federal Republic.

However, it regards the failure to reach agreement with the Ceausescu party as a minor detail. It does not regard the visit to have been clouded in any way.

It is an issue that ought not to be dramatised. Mr Ceausescu would obviously have had difficulty in making public admissions that in this instance would have amounted to admitting that Rumanian officials take bribes.

In any final document of the two-day visit political accountants would have looked in vain for tangible results.

The value of the visit, apart that is from the fact that it took place at all, lay in the outlook for ties between the blocs and thus in its repercussions for German Ostpolitik.

The strongest impression remains how intensively the debate on disarmament and arms control has been resumed, albeit as yet at a level below the superpowers' threshold.

In the course of the talks this grew so striking that the hitherto prevailing issue (and stumbling block) of who was to blame for the missile build-up receded into the background.

Rumania naturally toed the communist line and voiced the Soviet viewpoint.

Instead, a forward outlook was adopted and fresh talks were advocated. One wonders whether agreement on this point might have been reached with Erich Honecker.

Even so, it sounds like joint stage management when Hungarian leader Janos Kadar in Paris, GDR leader Herr Honecker in Helsinki and Mr Ceausescu in Bonn simultaneously and almost identically call on both superpowers to disarm.

Can the GDR leader say more readily in Scandinavia what the strict rules of intra-German political interco... would have made more difficult in Bonn?

What matters more is whether the Soviet Union will allow itself to be affected by eastern central European impatience.

Mr Chernenko's first interview with a Western correspondent, carried by the *Washington Post* on 17 October, at least doesn't block the path, not e... with provisos.

The points he mentions are not p... conditions and in part (arms control in outer space, for instance) are given a ready hearing in Bonn.

A dialogue seems in the offing, subject to the outcome of the US Presidential elections, before which the Russians continue to be anxious not to commit themselves.

By and large Mr Ceausescu's visit confirms the impression Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher gained after the meeting between President Reagan and Mr Gromyko.

The cables have been laid for the East-West talks of the most intensive kind. All that is still needed is elect... power from the capital cities of the superpowers.

Herr Genscher was particularly pleased with the extent to which Mr Ceausescu is backing him in his plan to visit Warsaw Pact countries and, indeed, with the way in which he has strengthened the Bonn government in its Ostpolitik as a whole.

This shows that Moscow's allies are allowed to use the new lines of communication, but for the time being only with low-tension current.

Bonn was this time able to add an encouraging note of its own. In the wake of all manner of domestic policy debates there was strikingly close agreement between President, Chancellor and Foreign Minister.

They combined to provide a badly needed binding interpretation of Bonn Ostpolitik. The positive echo from Warsaw to the mention of "border guarantees" is important enough in itself.

Chancellor Kohl was also keen on disarmament, noting that both superpowers were committed to it by the terms of the non-proliferation treaty.

This might indicate that the Chancellor has regained his voice in dealings with Washington: that of an independent, responsible ally with ideas of his own.

That is exactly what we are so enthusiastic about in connection with Mr Ceausescu.

Thomas Meyer

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 18 October 1984)

Continued from page 1

its bureaucratic set-up to future effect. But most ideas are still half-baked.

Is the existing arms control office to be entrusted with arms control policy? Will the armaments committee lend a stimulus to joint projects without steering a wide berth of other pact facilities?

WEU dynamism depends on the energy of the Council of (Foreign and Defence) Ministers, who are to meet regularly twice a year and ad hoc if need be.

But its parliamentary counterpart, the WEU Assembly, will need to put the wind up the Ministers.

Initially the new-look WEU will mainly be a demonstration of political determination to take on more responsibility. On that point the Seven have taken on ambitious commitments.

They must reach agreement in their analysis of the Soviet threat or of the effect on Europe of crises and conflicts in the Third World.

The consequences will affect them directly, as will the transatlantic dialogue with America.

The same will apply if Dr Kissinger's forecasts are fulfilled or Senator Nunn's call for a drastic US troop withdrawal from Europe is heeded, always assuming the Europeans fail to step up their contribution toward the defence of the West.

As the plans drawn up for the WEU are not envisaged as overt or covert separatism in Nato, the Seven may increase their importance in relation to the United States.

They might also improve their position with regard to the East by putting paid to any Soviet speculation that the Europeans plan either to be mere US vassals or to decouple from the United States.

After all, the Seven will sound for Europeans themselves the signal that a desire for greater independence still exists.

Kurt Becker

(Die Zeit, 26 October 1984)

The German Tribune

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■ HOME AFFAIRS

Speaker of the Bundestag resigns

...ner Barzel, Speaker of the West German Bundestag, has resigned following an investigating committee hearing into allegations that he received DM1.7 million from the Flick conglomerate. It is alleged that the money was paid over through a law firm as a consulting fee. What has not yet emerged is what he might have done for the law firm that was worth that much money. The Greens are the only party to come out from the continuing Flick affair unscathed. Earlier this year Count Otto Lambsdorff was forced to resign as Economic Affairs Minister over allegations that he accepted Flick money for Free Democrat party funds.

Barzel's resignation was the only solution possible.

The Bundestag, the parliamentary parties all together and Helmut Kohl's government would have found it difficult to continue with the moral burden the affair has created.

It speaks neither for the Barzel person nor for his political loyalty to the CDU that the last straw that broke the camel's back came from an outside source.

It was a statement by the former Flick managing director Max Paefgen before the investigation committee.

It was to a certain extent a swift resignation, no matter how it is regarded, for Barzel tried at first to save his office.

He knew that resignation would meant the end of his political career.

The Kohl government and the CDU/CSU have moved swiftly in the crisis, realising that they could not elude the shadows cast by this political embarrassment.

In contrast to the manner Bonn approached the Wörner/Kiessling case (in which allegations involving the sexual habits of a senior army officer were found to be false), government acted swiftly keeping a distance from developments, letting the Bundestag president have the opportunity to justify himself before the committee.

What Barzel hoped to achieve in his statement on Wednesday — a cleansing storm — has turned out to be the latest scandal for the Union and the political parties altogether — including the Greens. They have not played it straight with the millions they have received for the 1983 general election. Irregularities have appeared.

Certainly Barzel is not answering for West German politicians and the corruption activities of the Flick organisation, nor for West German industry. Nevertheless politicials and captains of industry would do well to learn a lesson from the "Barzel affair".

Barzel's resignation means that distrust of politicians and political parties as well as the mistrust of political effrontery with "big money" will not be quickly forgotten. People, particularly young people, have a keen ear. This is not prudence, but a straightforward search for another, better, political style.

Was it a parliamentary crisis? This fear was often heard in the past few days. This seems a little exaggerated, for Barzel's resignation has to some extent cleared the air. His resignation is confirmation of the watchdog function of a free press and the power of public opinion against those in power. Democracy, itself not immune to unpleasantness, has once again cleansed itself.

It is to be hoped that the immense pile of files that the Flick investigation committee has will not bring to light other cases of the Barzel kind.

Lessons are to be learned in any case. There can be problems with party financing as with politicians getting too close to interest groups.

The Barzel case has been a shock for Bonn. Let us hope that it has been a salutary one.

Jürgen Offenbach

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 26 October 1984)

Toppled from high office

West Germany's second most senior official, Rainer Barzel, Speaker of the Bundestag, has been toppled under suspicion of having received money from the Flick concern.

According to Bonn parliamentary usage the office is in the benefice of the largest parliamentary party.

Until the Greens entered the Bundestag it was common practice for the parliamentary parties to name the President (Speaker) and his deputies with the consent of the candidates, who were then elected.

The president is elected for the legislative period in a secret ballot. Neither he nor the vice-presidents can be named for Bundestag committees.

Barzel could not be forced to withdraw from his office, a regulation applied so that the president can perform his duties independently and strengthen his position as leader of parliamentary sessions.

The Bundestag president is *the* authority in the Bundestag so as to maintain good order during parliamentary sessions.

He can rule a speaker out of order and in cases of unseemly behaviour, as was seen recently, he can exclude a member from a parliamentary sitting.

The Bundestag Speaker "represents the Bundestag" on public occasions and at ... He organises the business of the day.

All communications are addressed to ... concerning the organ of state, the Bundestag. He has an advisory vote in all committees. He is also the most senior of all Bundestag officials, whom he appoints according to law and general administrative regulations.

He can hire and fire although if dismissal concerns a senior official or civil servant he has to obtain the approval of the presidium.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 24 October 1984)

Barzel's long career close to the corridors of power

Lübecker Nachrichten

Rainer Barzel, 60, has been a top CDU politician for almost a quarter of a century. He was born on 20 June 1924 in Braunsberg, East Prussia, the son of a school inspector.

The Barzels, like most in this corner of East Prussia, were Catholic.

Rainer Barzel grew up in Berlin, where his father was transferred in 1931.

He took his Abitur (university entrance examination) in 1941 and joined the fleet air arm. He became a lieutenant.

In Cologne he studied jurisprudence. Alert and intelligent, he made moves to get into politics, aided by Karl Arnold, CDU premier of North Rhine-Westphalia.

In 1948 he married his young love Kriemhild Schumacher and within a year his only daughter Claudia was born. Both are now dead. In 1977 the daughter died and three years later Barzel's wife died from an incurable illness. Barzel took these two tragedies hard.

In 1982 he re-married Dr Helga Henselder, managing direct of the West German foreign trade association.

Rainer Barzel joined the CDU in 1954, and in 1957 he was directly elected to the Bundestag for the Paderborn constituency. In 1960 he was elected party chairman. Konrad Adenauer made him Minister for Inter-German Affairs when he was 38, the youngest Federal Republic minister.

When Ludwig Erhard succeeded Konrad Adenauer as chancellor Barzel had to vacate his ministry to make room for the FDP chairman, Erich Mende. He took over the parliamentary leadership of the CDU/CSU, becoming chairman in 1964 after the death of Heinrich von Brentano.

After the 1965 general election he tried to dislodge Erhard, but in vain. In 1966, however, he had a hand in bringing down Ludwig Erhard.

Then came the Grand Coalition. Yet again the CDU/CSU parliamentary party voted another to be chancellor candidate — this time Georg Kiesinger. Barzel only received 26 votes.

He remained parliamentary party leader and worked very closely with his SPD friend, Helmut Schmidt.

When the CDU/CSU lost power after the general election in 1969 Barzel took a leading place in the CDU, and in 1971 he was elected party chairman, in opposition to Helmut Kohl.

In 1972 when the narrow SPD/FDP majority in the Bundestag crumbled Barzel made a dash for the chancellorship through a constructive vote of no confidence, hoping to topple Willy Brandt. He failed by two votes — from his own following.

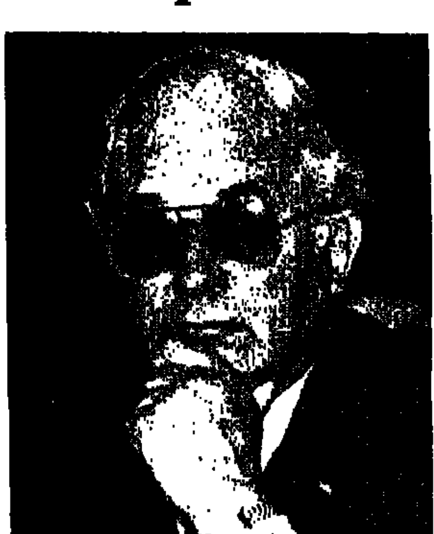
Barzel's bid for the chancellorship in the national election of 1972 was also unsuccessful. For the first time the SPD was the strongest party in the Federal Republic.

Barzel quickly lost ground in his own party after this.

Disappointed he decided to give up the chairmanship of the parliamentary party in May 1973 and a week later he resigned his position as party leader.

Werner Neumann

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 26 October 1984)



Rainer Barzel . . . nearly became Chancellor. (Photo: Werek)

Public prosecutor probes tax angle to Flick relationship

Public interest will continue in Rainer Barzel's relationship with the Flick concern after his resignation.

The matter is still being investigated by the public prosecutor's office in Bonn for there is a suspicion of tax evasion.

The public prosecutor's office is investigating if the contract Barzel had with the Frankfurt lawyer Paul could possibly have been just a pretence by which Barzel was paid about DM1.7 million without doing anything for it.

The Flick concern paid roughly that amount to the lawyer's office between 1973 and 1979, and claimed tax relief for these payments.

The prosecuting officials will have to decide whether a formal judicial inquiry should be made against Barzel if this is justifiable when the Bundestag investigation committee into the Flick concern has completed hearing witnesses. Both Barzel and Paul have rejected the charge of a contract of convenience.

It is possible that because of the contradictory statements made by Barzel and the former Flick manager Günter Max Paefgen before the committee that further judicial inquiries will be instigated by the public prosecutor's office for perjury. The possible penalty for this charge is imprisonment from three months to five years.

Paefgen said on Thursday in a statement to the committee that the consultant's contract between the Flick concern and Paul was concluded when Barzel told him (Paefgen) that he would be working in the lawyer's office. The previous day Barzel told the committee that he had learned that the lawyer's office "had" among others a contract with the Flick concern. *dpa*

(Bremer Nachrichten, 26 October 1984)

Politicians: the extra onus

Bundestag Speaker Rainer Barzel has come to the end of his political career, not because he was corrupt, but because there was evidence that he had been paid for a few years for not doing very much work.

The money came not from his employer, the law firm of Paul, but from Flick.

In all honesty, who of us would not pick up almost two million marks for doing very little?

A man in his position cannot afford to have a hint of suspicion about his person. He should have have known that he could be put in a difficult position one day if ever he were approached by Flick.

State officials such as Barzel enjoy privileges, but the reverse side is that they cannot go politically unpunished for certain actions that are allowed to Tom, Dick or Harry.

If Barzel resigns he will not have to turn to the social services for assistance. Pity is out of place.

Those who send the state into the mire or throw the system to the dogs, have to be taken down a peg or two. The American Watergate affair from 1972 to 1974 was of quite a different calibre.

No Democrats in American came to the mad idea that the whole political set-up should be altered.

The Barzel affair, or the Flick affair as it could be called, cannot cause us to doubt our political system. *Reinhold Michels*

(Rheinische Post, 22 October 1984)

■ THE BARZEL AFFAIR

Changing times, changing attitudes to old virtues

A democracy needs neither heroes nor saints. It isn't a moral institution that might want to lay down for an entire people what they have to think, to do or to avoid doing.

We have no bars bristling with military decorations beneath which the holder's uniformed chest grows more and more barrel-shaped. Our leaders lay no claim to lengthy, florid titles. We don't have personality cults.

A democracy rightly knows itself to be superior to social systems and forms of government that constantly need to stage march-pasts, to hold rallies of jubilant masses and to make out obedience and commitment to be the cardinal virtues.

Democracy allows motivation to remain a personal consideration. It invariably has an aura of the advice given by a Minister of Louis Philippe, France's citizen-king, to his fellow-countrymen: "Enrichissez-vous!"

To set about amassing wealth by means of hard work, initiative and imagination is surely laudable provided, as was noted back in 1830, it is for the general good.

And as the philosophy of democracy is well aware of the weaknesses of mankind, sensible democrats have devised a code of conduct, not only of checks and balances for the political process but also for civilised dealings with each other.

Some countries seem to manage well without such a code of conduct. Britain doesn't even have a constitution, let alone written rules governing the conduct of MPs and members of the government.

Established customs and civilised manners prevail. Asked whether anything comparable with the events that prompted Rainer Barzel's resignation as Speaker of the Bonn Bundestag had ever happened at Westminster, a knowledgeable Briton said something similar happened in the 1940s and, earlier, before the First World War.

Ministers had had to resign because they were found to have taken favours while in office, and be it only the gift of a fur coat to their wives by an interested party.

How many German Cabinet Ministers and other officials would have had to resign if such a stern view were taken here? The question is, of course, purely rhetorical.

The "Barzel Affair" may take whatever legal turn it will. Politically and morally one is bound to wonder whether Germany has a nomenklatura of its own, a top brass concerned not only with truly difficult present and future tasks but also intent on retaining or extending power.

Former Bonn civil servant Paul Frank, who last served as state secretary at the President's Office, is a man given at times to exaggerating what he has to say, but he made a telling point in a recent book.

"The ouster, disappearance from the official list of office-holders, the loss of official privileges and being a has-been" usually mean the end for the person concerned in countries with both democratic and undemocratic governments.

"Official cars, official residences, official travel, aircraft, helicopters, chauffeurs, secretaries, personal assistants — all these pleasant perquisites that make life easy are like drugs for the career politician." Some fail to survive the withdrawal symptoms. It happens to former executives too.

Yet that alone fails to account for the present crisis, which has assumed the proportions of a profound crisis of confidence.

If people felt it was just a matter of a

Süddeutsche Zeitung

few individuals who for one reason or another, and be it only failure to appreciate the niceties of the situation, had come under a cloud, they would hardly give it a second thought.

Anyone with any sense knows that the democratic system is not to blame for personal shortcomings of individual politicians.

The affair or affairs in Bonn and elsewhere (how many have still to come to light?) have an entirely different and, sad to say, much more far-reaching dimension.

There is an evident lack of political style and civic morals among some political and industrial leaders, to the detriment of the democratic system.

How is one to account to young people for the contradiction between what people say and how they behave?

It is sad but true that the Federal Republic cannot look back on long-established bourgeois-democratic traditions.

Among self-employed merchants and tradesmen there once was a time when honesty and thrift were regarded as virtues. They were virtues accepted in industrial management in the 19th century. But they failed to gain acceptance among politicians.

With the decline of the old bourgeoisie and the emergence of a nouveau riche class, cynicism came to the fore in parliament and in executive suites and intrigue, tactical finesse and jobs for the boys grew widespread.

What remained of the old bourgeois virtues was corrupted and undermined by National Socialism. "The (bourgeois) character," Dolf Sternberger once wrote, "virtually failed to notice the usurper. He lacked the acumen needed to do so.

"He also virtually failed to appreciate the blandishments of power that tempted him, lacking a conscience and any sense of shame as he did."

This observation is nothing new. Research was undertaken and much was written about it in the 1950s.

"Today, as in the Weimar Republic, the leaders of major industrial lobbies are determined to make as much use as possible of their influence on public opinion, political parties, parliaments and governments," K. W. Deutsch wrote in 1959.

The media bombardment of society by political parties, the state as a captive of the group power of interested parties and much more has long been analysed.

But it doesn't seem to have had much effect on the conscience and feeling for style of our leaders. On the contrary, the general public has been accustomed to expect handouts.

They range from subsidies and financial benefits to guarantees of the sta[tus] quo and organised, deliberate tax fra[ud].

The entire Federal Republic has [be]come an impenetrable network of po[liti]cal appointees and grown almost h[elp]lessly unable to move.

The amazing files kept by a clerk [at] the Flick head office in Düsseldorf [in]clude many names prefaced by the a[b]breviation "wg," presumably short f[or] "wegen," or "on account of."

What is lacking is any entry under the heading "Wg. Bundesrepublik" ([the] Federal Republic). The state was inde[ed] the loser, not the beneficiary of the[se] transactions.

This perversion of democratic virtue[s] is alarmingly widespread, even whe[re] very little money is involved.

There have always been well-mean[ing] bids in Bonn to shed as much light [as] possible on such links between politics and industry. Since 1980 there has e[ven] been a code of conduct for members [of] the Bundestag.

MPs are duty-bound to submit det[ails] of their contracts, sidelines, activities [as] consultants and favours received.

As there is clearly no readily accep[t]ed political style or morals in the Feder[]al Republic, provisions of this kind a[re] evidently indispensable and probably have an educational effect.

The shock caused by the public deb[]ate and the court cases pending may a[r]guably have a more salutary effect.

Party-political donations may w[ell] now slow down to more of a trickle, gi[ven] the blow to the prestige of political par[t]ies and many of their leading membe[rs], not to mention industrial executives a[nd], not long ago, the trade union movemen[t].

If they do, then the authority of th[e] democratic system of government c[an] but derive benefit.

Hans Heigert

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 20 October 19[84])

Flick is the largest family business in West Germany. Firms in the group last year had a combined turnover of 9.9 billion marks. They include Krauss-Maffei, which makes military tanks, Feldmühle (paper), Dynamit Nobel (explosives), and Buderus (bathtubs). Flick has a 10 per cent holding in car maker Daimler-Benz and 26 per cent of the American company, Grace. According to the Süddeutsche Zeitung, Flick has handed more than 25 million marks over to German Federal political parties over the years. None has gone to the Greens.

Flick, a giant at the eye of the storm

Eberhard von Brauchitsch has always seen himself as his master's obedient servant and the agent of billionaire Friedrich Karl Flick, a man who shuns the limelight even though his group has a payroll of well over 40,000 and an annual turnover of more than DM10bn.

Nothing is known in greater detail about the group, let alone about the assets of its sole owner.

Viewed objectively, the Flick group must by now have mixed feelings about Brauchitsch, who is to blame for Flick having been discussed almost daily, and in negative terms, for the past three years.

It first came in for criticism in connection with the hundreds of millions of marks in tax from which the group was exempted after selling a major holding in Daimler-Benz shares.

Then came the upset over party-political donations, now followed by the events that prompted the resignation of Bundestag Speaker Rainer Barzel.

Time and again the name Brauchitsch crops up, and the 58-year-old Flick ex-



Von Brauchitsch . . . taste for boxing. (Photo: Sven Simon)

ecutive's predilection for filing every note he makes has certainly been Rainer Barzel's undoing.

Berlin-born Brauchitsch is a naval officer's son who grew up with the best imaginable social connections, connections he has successfully nursed and maintained to this day.

The informal channels he opened up plied him with invaluable information and gained him almost universal access to the high and mighty. He is one of th[e] most powerful *éminences grises* in Ger[]man business and politics.

Brauchitsch has always had a goo[d] name in executive suites; he still does i[n] spite of chary politicians, legal investig[]ations and his dismissal by Flick at the end of 1982.

He remains a man whose opinions ar[e] valued and respected, a popular super[]visory board member and adviser to [at] least a dozen large firms.

He cannot be said to have got whe[re] he was merely by virtue of his connec[]tions.

He is a man who is not only keen t[o] lead but also capable of providing lead[]ership. He is a man who is not only righ[t] but also has his way.

He is also a man with the gift of sens[]ing just what the boss is thinking an[d] feeling. He certainly made his way to the top in meteoric fashion.

A law graduate, he took over at 31 a[s] managing director of a charter airline that is now run as a Lufthansa subsidi[]ary.

His big break came at 34 whe[n] schoolfriend Friedrich Karl Flick hire[d] him to work at the legendary Düsseldo[rf] head office of his father Friedrich Flick.

Four years later Brauchitsch was [a] personally liable partner in the holding company and still, of course, absolutely dependent on the Flicks but a senio[r] manager of the group.

The Flick group manufactures stee[l] and paper, tanks and explosives, sell[s] fitted kitchens and insurance policies. The company report lists nearly [] firms in which the group holds a stake.

Brauchitsch was generally felt to be Flick's right-hand man, but the impres[]sion was mistaken. Relations betwee[n]

Continued on page 5

■ PERSPECTIVE

Bonn and Moscow, a twain a long way from meeting

[A]n enormous deadweight of fear and [m]istrust still weighs heavily on rel[ation]s between the Federal Republic of [Ger]many and the Soviet Union.

[Im]passioned protestations of peace[ful] intentions exchanged at a conference [at] the Protestant Church Academy in [Lo]ccum, near Hanover, were unable to [alter] this fact.

A three-hour debate between Bun[des]wehr inspector-general Wolfgang [Alten]burg and military expert Professor [Dani]el Proektor of the Soviet Academy [of] Sciences indicated how bogged-down [the] situation is.

[N]either General Altenburg nor Pro[fess]or Proektor can be considered hard[line]rs in their respective governments. [Th]e[y] sought to persuade the other side [to] show understanding. But they made [no] headway whatever toward approxi[mat]ion of their respective views.

Addressing an audience of over 200 [s]cientists, military experts and journal[ists], not to mention the TV cameras, the [two m]en voiced anxiety about the arms [rac]e and stressed how peaceable they [them]selves were without there being [any] clear indication of progress in rel[ation]s between their countries.

[Th]e conference at least clearly out[line]d the limits to readiness to reach un[derst]anding. General Altenburg out[line]d German fears. The Soviet Union, [he] said, was concentrating its main mili[tary] might on a single point and, "sad to [say], it is exactly where I am sitting."

Professor Proektor denied there was [any] such pressure on Central Europe. [To] the amazement of General Alten[burg], who knew of only 22 Nato divi[sions] in Central Europe ("I know all di[visiona]l commanding officers by name," [he sa]id), the Soviet professor referred to [94 N]ato divisions, a number roughly

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

equal to the 100 Warsaw Pact divisions. He was equally unaware of the existence of a conventional imbalance. "Maybe," he said, "we have a few more tanks, but you have more aircraft and anti-tank missiles and, Herr General, you are well aware of the Bundeswehr slogan: *Milan und Hot machen Panzerschrott.*"

Milan and Hot are anti-tank missiles and the slogan implies they will make short shrift of enemy tanks.

General Altenburg enquired more than once why, given that Nato was clearly geared to a strictly defensive role, the Soviet Union concentrated enough military might in Central Europe to repel a full-scale Western offensive.

No answer was forthcoming other than an assurance that the Soviet Union would never attack first, whereas Professor Proektor voiced doubts as to the West's peaceful intentions.

He may not have insisted on Nato maintaining 94 divisions in Central Europe and seemed not seriously to believe in their existence. But he took a dim view of the US arms build-up.

Why, he asked, is the United States manufacturing MX missiles? What plans does it have for the B-1 bombers, for the 29,000 cruise missiles and the anti-missile systems in outer space?

"The United States wants to gain supremacy and we can't allow that to happen."

Fears of war were voiced at two different levels. The Germans' fears of Soviet forces on their doorstep were countered by Soviet fears of global US weapons.

Professor Proektor was quick to appreciate General Altenburg's dilemma. The general is responsible as a German officer for national security but as a superpower's ally is not in a position to advocate more far-reaching interests.

So Professor Proektor did not go into greater detail on the Soviet-American conflict. But it was clear that he was worried less by the German Leopard tank than by the US nuclear shield and what he felt was US determination to gain and if need be use military supremacy.

"Do you have a 100-per-cent veto on the President's decision to launch nuclear missiles?" he asked. "That, you see, is our problem."

General Altenburg's appeal to the superpowers to return to the Geneva conference table did not go unheard. Both the Soviet spokesman and the deputy head of the US delegation at the Stockholm conference, Lynn Hansen, said they were ready in principle to hold talks.

Hansen later advocated including new topics, such as militarisation of outer space, on the agenda.

But signals such as these were unable to disguise the fact that a fresh detente round still remains a distant prospect. So it was impossible to see why the Soviet Union is not even prepared to abide by such harmless arrangements as the Helsinki agreement to exchange manoeuvre observers.

In spite of regular invitations to the Warsaw Pact to send observers to Nato's autumn manoeuvres the East Bloc chooses to ignore such invitations and does not return the favour.

"We don't have enough people to observe your enormous manoeuvres," Professor Proektor said, much to the audience's amusement. "Why must you hold manoeuvres for 400,000 men? We manage with 50,000 at most."

General Altenburg outlined to him the system of successive national manoeuvres as held by Nato and combined merely in code name as "Autumn Forge."

"You can follow the manoeuvres one after another with a handful of observers," he said. "You are sure to have enough available."

What are the prospects for the future given such deep-rooted mistrust of the other side's intentions? Professor Klaus von Schubert, of Heidelberg, commented as conference chairman.

Professor Proektor, he said, was a believer in common sense. Why, he asked, could not both sides make do with political moves in crisis situations in which military ones were ruled out?

"The question is," he said, "whether military power can be made to measure to ensure that action is limited to political moves in a crisis situation and no military responses are undertaken."

Neither side denied the need to return to the conference table in order to arrive at a solution to military dilemmas.

Hans-Anton Papendieck

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 22 October 1984)

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them were not always as harmonious as the public were led to believe.

The two men split up in the early 1970s when Brauchitsch moved for two years from the Rhine to the Spree, where he was newspaper proprietor Axel Springer's right-hand man.

Friedrich Flick died in 1972 and his dying wish is rumoured to have been to re-hire Eberhard von Brauchitsch.

This need not have been the case. It could simply have been that the job with Springer was not what Brauchitsch had hoped it might be. At all events he went back to Düsseldorf and the Flicks.

In Düsseldorf he could certainly be sure of substantial, if not unlimited leeway. Friedrich Karl Flick, unlike his father, allows others to look after the group's day-to-day affairs.

He seldom visits Düsseldorf, preferring to confer with his personal staff at his Bavarian home.

In his public appearances Flick seems a little on the shy side, but at his Bavarian home he is more open and man-of-the-world as he devises the strategies his Düsseldorf head office is largely left to put into practice.

Brauchitsch definitely enjoyed Flick's confidence and the good luck of a hard-working man, but he wasn't the only man at head office who was on good terms with the owner.

Until 1980 he was confronted by Max Paefgen, a man who had served the Flicks since the early 1950s. Paefgen preferred to operate in the background.

Flick took good care to ensure that no one of his henchmen grew too powerful. His principle was to divide and rule.

Yet Brauchitsch was a powerful and influential personality on the board. He knew where he stood and was flattered by his standing both in the company and in state and society. His self-assurance was boosted as a result. So, arguably, was the vanity of an executive who liked made-to-measure suits just as he liked made-to-measure work by his staff (without being disposed toward narrow-minded despotism in the way he ran the company).

He tolerated contradiction and even encouraged it, although he then decided what he felt was best.

He adopted majestic airs, occasionally deigning to drink with ordinary members of his local riding club but never forgetting to keep his distance.

It is easy to imagine that his favourite sports include both horse-riding and boxing. He is, incidentally, vice-president of the Sports Aid Foundation.

He had risen to a position in which he was due, in 1983, to take over as president of the Confederation of German Industry (BDI). But he had to step down before moving to the BDI in Cologne on account of legal investigations.

He cried off before taking over as BDI president because "the judicial enquiries and the attention they are likely to prompt" would impose an intolerable burden on the confederation.

That was his explanation and he rightly judged the situation. He now spends his spare time (which is more than it used to be) reading Marcus Aurelius, the Roman philosopher. A conservative man, he evidently hopes to find in the writings of Bismarck ways and means of stemming the tide toward socialism, a need he has felt since at least 1978.

He also admits to enjoying reading crime fiction. In the 1970s he will hardly have imagined he would one day himself provide material for a detective novel in Bonn.

Leonhard Spielhofer

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 23 October 1984)

■ THE ECONOMY

Growth down, unemployment up, predicts report

RHEINISCHE POST

Real growth is likely to drop from 2.5 per cent this year to 2 per cent next year, say the five major economic research institutes in their autumn report.

The wages policies of the trades unions and shorter working hours are criticised in the report.

The institutes, in West Berlin, Hamburg, Munich, Essen and Kiel said that the projected growth rate would not be enough to lead to more employment.

Unemployment would increase slightly from 2.27 million this year to 2.28 million. Inflation would be two per cent.

There had been traces of improvement in the economic situation over the past two years.

In its economic and social policies the government had not done much to unleash dynamic economic growth.

Planned tax reforms were steps in the right direction, but were still not as extensive as they should be to sustain growth.

Wages taxation should be so built up that tax increases and the limits of tax liability for additional earnings should increase simultaneously. Corrections to the tax system should give priority to measures that affect the family.

As regards the family it is more important to concentrate on growth and employment, for only then can family demands be financed in the long term. Tax reform should not be in two stages, but should come into effect in one phase in 1986.

The economists saw with some concern that politicians still made proposals for more public money for regional, labour and technological programmes. Such measures have proven to be mainly expensive and useless.

They also regarded as questionable the intention of retracting in part cuts made to social benefits. Financing through an increase in contributions should be considered.

In order to increase businessmen's readiness to invest more and offer jobs to more people state involvement should be reduced.

Privatisation of state-owned operations would mean that production would be adjusted to citizens' requirements and the state budget would be relieved of burdens.

Finally consideration should be given to limiting subsidies.

The institutes in Hamburg, Kiel and Essen criticised the unions and employers for not having adjusted their wage scales to take into consideration regional factors, the branch of the economy and the business itself.

The reduction in the working week and working life has supposedly been arranged with some flexiblity, but in practice many maintain that this flexibility just will not come into effect.

The danger was been voiced that trained workers will be employed for a shorter period and so reduce the chances of economic growth. To avoid this the only course open is to work over-time which will involve increased costs.

Wage settlements have been cause for concern as well, for they are not adequately related to an employer's profits. In the public service both sides lack caution.

Union demands as well as employer offers give the impression that representing the interests of the employed are of prime importance, not the interests of the unemployed as well.

Future wage settlements should not be staggered according to skills and qualifications: a combination of pay rises and profit-sharing should be devised.

The effect of short-time working on the labour market "will not be of any great consequence", the institutes maintain. Only in the service industries will there be a slight increase in the number of jobs. In the processing industries the figure will remain roughly the same, and in building there will be a considerable drop in the number working in the industry.

Although the number of foreign workers returning to their homelands is greater than the number of those coming into the country the number of job-seekers will increase by 30.000 to 40.000.

The "silent reserve" of unemployed who have not registered at labour exchanges will increase by 10,000. The unemployed rate will remain unchanged at 9.4 per cent.

Net salaries and wages will increase by three per cent as opposed to the 2.5 per cent of the current year. The increase in net profits will drop from 7.5 per cent to seven per cent.

Investment for equipment will increase to five per cent as against the one per cent for 1984.

Hans-Henning Zencke

(Rheinische Post, 23 October 1984)

Stoltenberg reported firm on plan to privatise Lufthansa

Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg looks as if he intends to press ahead with his decision to privatise national airline Lufthansa, despite the opposition of Franz Josef Strauss.

In Bonn it is being said that Stoltenberg will place before the Cabinet in November an extensive privatisation plan that will be followed through to the end of this legislative period.

This plan, according to the present state of play, apart from generalisations about privatisation, will include a "project list" made up of about a dozen operations in which the state has some participation and that are ripe for passing into private hands.

According to reliable sources the list will include the wholly state-owned Vereinigte Industrie-Unternehmungen AG of West Berlin and Bonn, which is regarded as "ripe for privatisation".

This concern controls the important electricity company Bayernwerk in Munich and gas producers Thyssengas in Duisburg as well as Vereinigten Aluminium-Werke also in West Berlin and Bonn.

Stoltenberg is carefully preparing his case for the privatisation of Lufthansa for the battle that will rage in the Cabinet because of the opposition to the move from Bavaria's Premier Franz Josef Strauss and Lufthansa chairman Heinz Ruhnau. Both are dead against disposing of the government's 79 per cent holding in the national airline.

Stoltenberg expects to get full support from Chancellor Helmut Kohl. All suggestions that participation in Lufthansa should be reduced to 51 per cent have not convinced Stoltenberg.

Stoltenberg is also unconvinced by the argument put forward by Strauss that the interruption in the airbus makes it in the long-term essential for the government to retain a two-thirds holding in Lufthansa.

Ruhnau's fear that selling off parts of Lufthansa would open the door to foreign interests have also not cut much ice.

Stoltenberg, on the other hand, seems to be looking at the investment injections the airline will be needing in the 1990s.

As the state as major shareholder has no cash, it will be easier for the company to find re-financing on the stock market. Limitations will be imposed on the extent foreigners can participate and the shares will be issued with limited voting rights.

Furthermore, as with the privatisation of Veba in 1983, consortia of banks will be obliged to spread the shares widely.

The privatisation concept also includes limiting state participation in the Posts, Railways and special properties or at least re-organisating and consolidating state operations with "adjustment problems".

This last refers primarily to the steelworks Salzgitter and Saarbergwerke. Stoltenberg has demanded re-organisation proposals from both.

Salzgitter is not only having to settle "old loans" in the steel processing division but is having to make long-overdue structural adjustments to the Salzgitter subsidiary Howaldtwerk-Deutsche Werft in Hamburg and Kiel.

Central government has made clear to the Salzgitter and Saarbergwerk boards that further losses cannot be tolerated.

At Salzgitter losses seem to have shot up with increased indemnification to workers, redundancy pay and pensions.

Stoltenberg regards as a step in the right direction that state-owned organisations have been reluctant to take up shareholdings in other companies during the course of the year.

Boards are obliged to examine more carefully than before if the acquisition of a shareholding is essential or not.

In more than twenty cases government companies have disposed of shareholdings.

Proposals for acquiring new holdings that in general require the assent of the central government have dropped "almost to nothing".

There has been little comment about Lufthansa's intention to buy into the West Berlin hotel concern Kempinski.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 October 1984)

Yield on govt securities reduced twice

The yield on government secu... has been cut twice within a ... weeks. It is now 7.05 per cent.

The speed of the interest rate d... was because the Finance Minister, G... hard Stoltenberg, has announced ... without ifs and buts, the coupon tax ... be abolished.

This has attracted new foreign inv... ment capital. The last 7.5 per cent g... ernment securities were mainly taken ... by foreigners.

Until now foreign investors have k... a distance from securities, because th... had to pay a 25 per cent premium ... their capital.

Non-Germans wishing to pick ... fixed-interest bonds, take up deutsch... mark foreign securities whose inter... does not attract tax. This means ... foreigners do not have so much liabi... as the central government and ... states.

That is all now a thing of the past. T... drop in interest rates means less ear... ings from current securities and bonds...

Those who subscribed to the 8.5 ... cent government securities at 99.5 ... cent at the beginning of this year can ... them now at something like 104.4 ... cent. From the current interest rate ... 8.25 per cent there is a still a ma... profit of five per cent.

Over a period of twelve months a y... of more than thirteen per cent would ... made. Similar calculations can be m... with other fixed-interest bonds.

Those who hold pension fund bo... are in the same boat as the beneficiar... of the reduced interest rate.

The majority of pension fu... showed an increase in value of from ... most eight to almost ten per cent in ... first nine months of this year. This ... cludes current interest and market pr... it. Up to the end of this year it is expe... ed that there will be an increase in va... of from two to three per cent. Those w... have shares in these pension fu... whose strength is foreign fixed-inter... bonds, particularly dollar bonds, h... earned more. The value increase is up ... 14 per cent.

The steep increase in the dollar e... change rate this year has helped. T... has meant advantages on two fro... once from high interest rates in the U... and then the strong dollar.

The increased interest of foreign ... vestors in deutschmark bonds is the ... sult of the view taken by internatio... investors that the dollar has reached ... peak. A strengthening of the deuts... mark can now be expected.

For this reason foreigners are p... pared to purchase lower interest r... deutschmark bonds. They could rea... four to five points more in the US.

Risks with the dollar have cau... many West German investors to ke... their distance from dollar bonds. Th... ask the question: What to do with ... money? A portion has for sure found ... way into West German pension fun... because the tendency for interest ra... to drop means a market profit, wh... has in fact happened.

But Norwegian bonds have increas... in attraction. The risk of their bein... devaluation of the Norwegian kron... against the deutschmark is unlikely b... cause of the favourable financial situ... tion prevailing in Norway.

Kurt Wend...

(Kolner Stadt-Anzeiger, 13 October 1...)

■ PEOPLE IN COMMERCE

Quality before growth, says publishing group chief

DIE ZEIT

Mark Wössner, 46, has since April 1983 been chief executive of Ber...smann, the 150-year-old publishing ...up based in Gütersloh, Westphalia.

...Bertelsmann will not in fact be 150 ...til next year, but the anniversary is to ... suitably celebrated and plans have ...en drawn up for further large-scale ...mpany expansion until well into the ...90s.

...Bertelsmann were a fairly small firm ...r generations and only really grew in... a substantial international group in ...e 1970s, a decade in which turnover ...reased almost eightfold.

There has never been the slightest ...ubt that Germany's media multi ...uld be celebrating its sesquicenten...y in full independence, but many ob...ners wondered whether Bertelsmann ...150 would be as dynamic as it was in ...e 1970s under board chairman Rein...rd Mohn, who now chairs the upper, ...supervisory board.

The 1970s were a difficult decade in ...ny ways, but Bertelsmann just grew ...d grew, outperforming virtually all ...mparable German groups.

...n the late 1960s turnover was well ...der DM1bn and group activities were ...ely limited to the German market. In ...anniversary year world turnover will ...over DM6bn.

Yet in the early 1980s even this brisk ...owth rate failed to shield Bertelsmann ...m the effects of the international re...ssion. Matters were made worse by ...e international structural crisis in the ...dia business.

...h hit Bertelsmann in a particularly ...nsitive spot, with book and book club ...les slumping, book clubs being a ...mainstay of the group's business.

At this of all times power changed ...nds at the top. But the change-over ...s carefully prepared. As intended, ...Mohn moved up at 60 from the manage...ment to the supervisory board, handing ...er responsibility for the day-to-day ...nning of company business to the man ...groomed to take over.

He was Manfred Fischer, who ...emed to have been a great success as ...ief executive of Gruner & Jahr, the Hamburg publishers and major Bertelsmann subsidiary.

But this first change-over was a sad failure. The two men's views on how best to guide the media multi through the crisis and consolidate group business were so fundamentally different that Mohn and Fischer were soon at loggerheads.

After less than 18 months Fischer called it a day and moved out of the office from which Mohn had ruled roost.

Wössner, his hastily appointed successor, was less interested in appearances. Initially he didn't even bother moving to head office, preferring to run group affairs from his old office at the helm of the printing division.

Anyone who expressed surprise was firmly told that the company was run from wherever he happened to be. Had his self-esteem been hit by being only second choice? Hardly.

Wössner, a small Swabian businessman's son, began his management career in 1958 as a trainee in Gütersloh, being promoted to the board in 1976.

He is unlikely ever to have doubted his ability to run the company, and noone who meets him now will imagine he has ever had any doubts on the subject.

The chief executive of Bertelsmann AG is not only aware of having taken on a great inheritance. He is also keenly aware of what he personally has accomplished over the past year and a half and what his plans for the group are.

"In the 1980/81 financial year we made a profit of DM63m. Last year it was roughly DM275m and in our anniversary year we will do even better," he says.

"We hold 25 per cent of our equity capital again. Staff profit-sharing certificates earn interest at 15 per cent. We have cash at the bank and the economic outlook is good."

Given the difficulties the group faced, the outlook could well be described as superb. But Wössner prefers not to go overboard.

One of the most striking statistics is that the payroll, which declined at home and abroad in the critical years after 1980, is on the increase again. Of the Top 100 German companies Bertelsmann are one of the few that increased payroll in 1982/83 — by 4.8 per cent.

This trend continued in the 1983/84 financial year ending 30 June. Worldwide the number of staff employed by the 242 group companies increased by 2.2 per cent to 31,644.

But the domestic payroll has declined, whereas staff abroad have increased substantially.

Wössner outlined consolidation plans over Christmas 1982 in a 50-point programme that was later reduced to 10 essentials. His strategy worked.

When he quotes figures to prove the point he makes no mention of a factor that is invariably seen as the epitome of a company's size and status: turnover.

Bertelsmann turnover, at roughly DM6.5bn, is nothing to be ashamed of, but for Wössner turnover alone is no longer a prime aim of management activity.

"Size," he says, "doesn't interest me. Why must we grow larger? What we need is to become better and better, then growth will be inevitable."

What counts, as he sees it, is that throughout the group product quality, programme quality and publicistic and literary excellence are the objectives.

"The foremost and, for me, finest effect of consolidation," he says, "has been the change-over from quantity to quality in Bertelsmann's corporate identity."

The chief executive feels there is a new sense of change at Bertelsmann, a keenness to cooperate and to achieve peak performance that at one stage seemed to be in jeopardy.

This was certainly so in a number of divisions where trends were unsatisfactory in the early 1980s and in view of the impression created by the failure of the change-over from Mohn to Fischer and the Hitler Diaries hoax.

Hamburg subsidiary Gruner & Jahr are the publishers of *Stern* magazine, which bought the fake Hitler Diaries.

But Wössner's emphasis on quality has resulted in a concept of selective growth that is increasingly bearing fruit and motivating Bertelsmann staff.

When Wössner refers to selective growth he has in mind a renaissance of book club business, which he feels is threatened by the new media (with which Bertelsmann are also associated).

He is firmly convinced that reading will regain status alongside the electronic media. He aims to have an increasingly high-quality product range on offer in the book club and other sectors to cater for this demand.

On points such as these Mark Wössner may be forward-looking, with strategic planning designed not only to consolidate but also to make the group fighting fit for the 1990s.

But in one respect, the corporate guidelines laid down by Reinhard Mohn, he remains firmly rooted in the past.



Mark Wössner . . . brand new job, same old office. (Photo: J. H. Darchinger)

"Business isn't just business," he says. "It entails a social responsibility." This, in a nutshell, is group policy toward the wider public.

Within the group this principle is joined by welfare provisions such as profit-sharing and a staff say in management decisions devised in his days at the helm of the printing division.

The third mainstay of corporate philosophy is Reinhard Mohn's management outlook, based from early days on decentralisation and delegation of authority.

"It is," Wössner says, "a superb corporate concept we continue to develop. It is the basis of our success." It is also envisaged as the basis of the striving for qualitative growth by which he sets such store.

"If you ask me in five years' time what my most important job at Bertelsmann has been I will hope not to have to refer to launching one division or another or taking over some foreign company or another.

"I also hope not to have to stress the international growth of our successful magazine and book club business.

"What I should like is to be able to say that Bertelsmann in all sectors stands for quality, that the excellent company we now are has become a most excellent company."

If anyone asks which is the best company in Germany, then Bertelsmann must as a matter of course be one of the first to come to mind.

When Wössner outlines this point he exudes so much commitment and enthusiasm that it is impossible to doubt his enthusiasm is infectious.

That alone would have taken Bertelsmann a fair distance along the road Wössner has set himself to lead the company along.

Michael Jungblut

(Die Zeit, 19 October 1984)

■ BUSINESS

Stability plus access to Asian markets attracts investment to Singapore

The economic development of the city state of Singapore, which is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its independence from Britain, has been astonishing. The population of 2.5 million, three-quarters Chinese, has an average annual income per head of DM8,500 — the best in Asia apart from Japan. Because of the lack of manpower, industrial policy concentrates on high technology. This has attracted foreign investors.

Nixdorf Computer (Singapore) Pte. Ltd started its Singapore operations two years ago. It is doing well. So well that it is to move from rented premises into its own building in 1987.

A labour force of 250, mostly women, produces daily 500 computer screen keyboard keys for the parent company in West Germany.

The average monthly pay for an unskilled worker is 500 Singapore dollars (about DM750). In addition, the employer must pay 60 per cent of the payroll in social security contributions.

Nixdorf employees in Singapore work 44 hours a week. They only have between eight to ten days holiday a year, and they are seldom ill.

Friedrich-Wilhelm Aldag, factory manager, said: "Annually we work 143 per cent of the time worked in West Germany."

It would cost the firm DM250,000 a year to send out a German worker and maintain him :living costs in Singapore, the fourth most expensive city in the world, are high for foreigners.

Moreover local workers take advantage of the scarcity of labour and change jobs regularly so as to improve their income, and this extends to top management.

In addition the Singapore dollar - deutschmark exchange rate is "terrible" because the Singapore dollar is linked to the American dollar.

Despite favourable wage levels this means that Singapore is no longer such a good deal for a West German investor such as Nixdorf. But Aldag said: "We are here because it gives us an entry into South-East Asia markets."

Aldag, who is spokesman for the twenty or so West German firms manufacturing in Singapore said that they were there for the local market. These firms along with the 130 others represented in the island republic want to be on the spot in Asia's shop-window, so as to be able to keep in touch with the market that is made up of 300 million people, and to be able to participate from Singapore in the region's swift economic growth.

The case of Rollei acts as a warning to many West German investors, however, even through they do not particularly want to be named.

Rollei expanded its camera production in Singapore to a workforce of 5,000 and then had to pull out.

Manfred G. Schwencke, a director of West German merchant house Behn Meyer & Co. (Pte) limited, the oldest West German house with the largest turnover in Singapore (DM400 million), said that South-East Asia was mainly an American and Japanese sphere of influence.

A glance at investments from the various countries makes this clear. The West German embassy in Singapore reckons that West German investment is about 500 million Singapore dollars.

This compares with Japanese investment of between three and four billion Singapore dollars and eight billion by the Americans.

There are about 750 medium-sized Japanese companies in Singapore. The Americans have large operations on the Island, with General Electric with a workforce of 12,800 at the top and according, to Aldag, the Americans are expanding considerably.

Because of the Singapore dollar-American dollar link it is worthwhile for the Americans to use Singapore as a centre of manufacturing operations. This means that a half of electronic components' production worldwide is produced in Singapore.

The Economic Development Board does all it can to attract to Singapore foreign investors in this sector of industry, offering favourable conditions.

Singapore has a giant container port, enormous oil refining capacities, facilities for building offshore drilling platforms and shiprepairs.

As these aspects of industry are having a tough time because of international competition the state-controlled EDB is looking to build up electronics, specialist chemicals industries and the utilisation of the most modern equipment, including robots.

The basis for the success of this industrial policy is solid. Singapore has access to considerable financial reserves in American dollars and gold. Furthermore the building industry, that has accounted for a stable labour situation in the past, continues to be active.

But above all Singapore, under the leadership of Lee Kuan Yew for the past twenty years and the ruling People's Action Party, has a political system that is free of corruption. Technocratic yardsticks can be applied to development without fear of internal political resistance.

Felix Spi[...]
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 13 October 1984)

World textiles: coat cutting, but according to whose cloth?

The international textiles agreement covering the international textiles trade and particularly textiles supplies to the Common Market does not come into effect until July 1986.

But there are clear indications some people are changing their minds.

At first glance it seems that there is already a demand that the agreement should be extended.

This leads to the conclusion that claims put down in black and white in the preamble to the agreement on international textiles remain just ideas.

The preamble says that measures should be introduced to allow the textiles trade to develop without interruption and to contribute to the social an economic development of the developing and threshold countries.

In practice international trade seems to be a long way away from such honourable aims.

Compared with the situation in 1981 when the first international texiles agreement was extended, the result of laborious compromises between the contracting parties the position has got a lot tougher. Not only in textiles and clothing.

There is an evil tendency towards protectionism — the low-priced producing countries regard EEC measures designed to prevent a flood of cheap textiles entering the Common Market as protectionist.

The Gatt position that has been previously stated is the background, and

DIE WELT

Gatt in Genva is an international organisation with an eye to fairness in world trade.

Gatt is convinced that any form of limitation agreement brings with it a reduction in world trade.

So the trade limitations in the current textiles agreement must be abrogated. Gatt officials have an eye mainly on the categories and quotas system that makes it difficult for the "cheap" countries involved to gain admittance to the Common Market.

Gatt is given support by the foreign trade association of the retail trade that would not look unfavourably upon free world trade in textiles.The Gatt ideas have caused a shock in the textiles and ready-made clothing industry, and not only in West Germany.

In a paper prepared by the umbrella organisation for the European textiles industry, sent to the ten EEC governments, it is pointed out that the developing and communist countries account for 71 per cent of deliveries to the Common Market. In other sectors these suppliers only account for 25 per cent of the market.

This variation will cause chaos in the world textiles trade, with damaging consequences for total world trade.

Certainly the European textiles industry, particularly the West German industry, has suffered setbacks over the past ten years. West German structural changes were accelerated by the building-up of textile industries in the developing and threshold countries, that has had a considerable influence on the European industry.

It is self-evident that these capacities threaten the world market.

As soon as purchasing power in the domestic market weakens developing countries, in their own basic interests, must utilise every opportunity to earn foreign exchange so as to improve their position as regards international indebtedness.

The main point about extending the international textiles agreement cannot only be damming up markets but considerations should be given as to how better to open up markets.

Inge Adham
(Die Welt, 22 October 1984)

EEC suspicions over US technology bans

Concern is growing in the European Community that American regulations controlling technological transfer will damage unjustifiably the export interests of European companies.

At an informal dinner ministers responsible for industrial questions were handed a list of cases in which the US administration had threatened firms in the European Community deeply involved in exports by dragging their feet.

Within six weeks information will be exchanged to permit the Council of Ministers, supposedly foreign ministers, to take up a political attitude.

Viscount Etienne Davignon, EEC Commission vice-president, takes the view that after the exchange of information the Community's aim should be to make the future Washington administration aware of European fears.

Davignon, who is preparing to return to Belgian politics, has placed before the ministers a paper that covers to the Export Administration Act of 1979, legislation controlling the export of weapons of 1954, the atomic energy legislation of 1954 and the non-dissemination regulations of 1978.

Controls applied to technological transfer are first and foremost applied by the government in national security interests, "nevertheless, outside the USA there is the suspicion that the way the controls are applied in practice gives a competitive advantage to American companies as opposed to non-American companies."

According to the paper the American government seems to have extraordinary powers for the control, at least, influence over technological transfer, and not only directly between the US and other countries, but also over third countries.

It is not completely clear what effect that has actually had on the s[...] of technology and the exchange of scientific information.

Economic Affairs Minister Martin Bangemann advised journalists not to make too much of the matter. It was important to remain talking to the US, he said.

But it was essential to ensure that commercial viewpoints were also taken into consideration within the Western Alliance.

The industry ministers have agreed a recommendation that makes it possible gradually to open up national markets for communications equipment.

They also decided on a joint programme for developing uniform standards in data processing.

Wilhelm Hadle[...]
(Die Welt, 17 October 1984)

■ COMMUNICATION

Voice of Germany seeks to fill in the gaps

Frankfurter Neue Presse

Is Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (captain of the West German national soccer side) left- or right-footed? Deutsche Welle, the German short-wave radio station, is bombarded with queries like that.

Other examples: "Does the Bonn head of state have as much power as a monarch?" and "How much does the average German worker earn?"

Hundreds of such questions reach the station's Cologne head office daily, inquiries being sent in from all over the world.

Deutsche Welle, the Voice of Germany, broadcasts in dozens of languages. Twenty-seven transmitters and relay stations broadcast roughly 100 hours a day in German and 33 other languages.

Foreign language services began 30 years ago, on 3 October 1954, with newscasts in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese. Deutsche Welle had been going for about a year.

Short newscasts in foreign languages were interspersed in German-language programmes and totalled a mere 50 minutes a day. Years were to elapse before full foreign-language programmes were broadcast.

Language services were stepped up in 1959 with the addition of Arabic programmes. Other languages were added. Language service payroll was increased. Commentaries and magazine programmes were produced.

Deutsche Welle today does not just broadcast in international languages. Language services include Dari and Pushtu for Afghanistan and Hausa, Swahili and Amharic for African listeners.

Asian language services include Chinese, Japanese, Hindi, Bengali, Urdu and even Sanskrit.

The Voice of Germany sees its role as follows: "Everywhere in the world where freedom of the Press either doesn't exist at all or is restricted by censorship and where people are denied access to sources of information in their own country, short-wave radio must seek to offset this deficit and ensure the right to freedom of information is upheld."

These are the words of Klaus Schütz, director-general of the Cologne station, which has a payroll of 1,400. He is a former Berlin mayor and German ambassador to Israel.

To do this task justice is not always easy, especially as non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other countries is essential.

It is not for the Voice of Germany to want to change political systems, Herr Schütz says, but there is no reason why it should make no mention of human rights violations.

Its statutory task is "to convey to listeners abroad a comprehensive view of political, cultural and economic life in Germany and to outline and explain the German viewpoint on major issues."

It often has great difficulty in doing so. The Cologne station, which sees itself as an "ambassador of the Federal Republic," frequently has its broadcasts jammed.

Three days after broadcasts in Russian, Polish, Czech, Slovak, Hungarian and Serbo-Croat began in August 1962 they were jammed. Difficulties have also arisen with the Greek colonels and the Ethiopian military regime.

Deutsche Welle's task and self-concept have remained the same throughout the years, but it has changed in appearance and presentation and adapted to modern trends.

For about 20 years the Cologne station has produced TV programmes too.

A network service that is provided for radio programmes as well supplies TV stations all over the world with regular German TV programmes that are dubbed in five languages and edited for Third World countries interested.

Third World broadcasting authorities transmit 600,000 programme hours a year in over 100 countries.

Editing material calls for all manner of factors to be taken into consideration, as a point made by a Malagasy TV official illustrates.

What, he wondered, might people in drought-stricken countries in the southern hemisphere feel when, as often happens, competitors in a European quiz programme play with water!



Klaus Schütz . . . the man for a jan (Photo: dpa)

Deutsche Welle has now started making programmes of its own for the American market "to help to offset the reggrettable information gaps that exist in the United States about Germany," as spokesman Schwartz puts it.

Pilot programmes have been broadcast via the Public Broadcasting System. A magazine programme, Sports Report, has already been screened and is shortly to be followed by another test programme about the Oberammergau Passion Play festival.

The Voice of Germany is to produce four magazine programmes a month and expects them to be screened via cable TV too.

Eva Taschel/dpa

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 3 October 1984)

German attitude towards court jesters wins British regard

When the Goethe Institute in London celebrated its silver jubilee last year, the director-general of the British Council, Sir John Burgh, said in an anniversary address there were two points its British counterpart could learn from West German cultural diplomacy.

One was how important cultural relations were as an aspect of foreign policy and, indeed, world affairs. The other was how important it was to learn to appreciate the culture of the host-country.

To give and not to take, merely to send the Berlin Philharmonic to London or the Royal Shakespeare Company to Germany, can readily prompt ingratitude, the classic reaction of the chronic taker.

To mark the silver jubilee of British Council work in the Federal Republic of Germany Sir John read a paper on Cultural Diplomacy and the State at the Science Centre in Bonn in which he referred to the German media debate on intervention in cultural diplomacy by politicians.

Britain regulates relations between the government of the day and organisations associated with along lines that differ from the German approach, he said.

It tends to aim at a consensus from which domestic differences of opinion are accepted as an established fact but clashes are, as far as possible, avoided.

The senior permanent civil service head of the Foreign Office is a member of the British Council's board of governors, so the board is always briefed in detail on government views and wishes.

But close ties with the state such as also exist in the case of the BBC and the Arts Council ensure a large measure of freedom too.

Government intervention is forestalled and a distance can be maintained from the state that is, Sir John said, absolutely essential if cultural diplomacy is to be a success.

If the Foreign Office were to feel a specific foreign policy line needed following, such as cuts in British Council activities in the Soviet Union after the invasion of Afghanistan, it would inform the board but abide by its decision.

The German method of voicing differences of opinion might serve the purpose of clarity but it could not paper over how effective independence was — an independence that, in the final analysis, could not exist without the consent of the government, which supplied the funds.

British admiration for German cultural diplomacy is doubtless due in part to the Germans spending much more heavily on it. But it is also due to psychological factors connected with Britain's role in the world.

Britain, reduced to the role of a medium-sized power, is in the throes of a crisis of self-confidence. Besides, the British with their innate tendency to think pragmatically view the very concept of "culture" with suspicion.

To call someone or something cultivated has slightly disreputable connotations in English, except in the context of gardening or farming.

Intellectuals in Britain have never enjoyed the respect or authority in which German writers, thinkers and academics can bask. They tend to be seen as court jesters whose main duty is to amuse.

Some changes may have occurred in the media age, but the average Briton still finds totally unacceptable the idea that the taxpayers' money is spent on promoting British arts abroad.

A similar attitude was taken toward the former colonial nations. There was never any intention of making them British or of teaching them more than a limited command of English.

Government subsidies for British Council activities overseas are, significantly, funded from the development aid budget.

English is spoken as a first language by about 300 million people and as a second language by a further 400 million, so English language teaching is a major British Council activity.

It earns the Council DM75m a year and reduces by 21 per cent its reliance on government subsidies.

The British Council carries out a wide range of work in 81 countries. In Saudi Arabia, for instance, it teaches English on behalf of the Saudi authorities. In other countries its role is that of an export manager for the British book trade.

In China it has helped to set up a TV programme in English. Ironically, the British Council was set up 50 years ago to offset the cultural propaganda of Hitler and Mussolini. Its first overseas branch was in Egypt, then a British protectorate.

In Europe the Federal Republic of Germany is a centre of British Council activity, based since the post-war years in Anglo-German centres set up in 16 German cities.

The British Council today organises and finances 50 theatre and music tours and art exhibitions a year in the Federal Republic, plus up to 100 smaller events.

British Council libraries have computer data banks in Cologne, Munich, Berlin and Hamburg. English language teaching is generally arranged in collaboration with German schools and universities.

As part of a large-scale exchange programme 300 talented young German students a year have been awarded 12-month British Council scholarships to stay in Britain since 1959.

Since 1965 nearly 200,000 youngsters have taken part in youth exchange schemes.

British cultural diplomacy is keen to maintain objective standards such as have earned the BBC a high reputation for presenting a balanced view of Britain past and present, with no deliberate propaganda bias.

Sir John Burgh (Austrian-born, as it happens) has held a variety of senior British civil service appointments.

In Bonn he quoted Immanuel Kant's advice to cultural propagandists and others. People are made of such crooked wood, the philosopher wrote, that nothing straight can be fashioned out of them.

Roland Hill

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 16 October 1984)

■ THE CINEMA

Making politics go into pictures — with appeal

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Peter Lilienthal has always made political films. He is fascinated by the routine of everyday life that acts as an indicator of social relationships as in *La Victoria* (1973) or *David* (1979).

His central theme is human alienation, via convention as in *Hauptlehrer Hofer* (1974) or through economic pressure as in *Dear Mr Wonderful* (1982), or military terror as in *Es herrscht Ruhe im Land* (1975).

Lilienthal is interested in people and how they change, how they accept their lot or oppose, or rebel against it.

But his films are not just a cinematographic production of themes, opinions or convictions. What is always important is what is to be seen in the frames, and what is more important is what can be intimated or felt from the images.

There is no other film-maker in the country who can put politics into his pictures without spoiling their appeal. His aesthetic gives a glimpse into events and place, and an indication of the atmosphere in which the events and place develop.

In his new film, *Das Autogramm*, Lilienthal tells of two friends who are invited to a party in a remote provincial town by the ubiquitous military for whom the peace has become too peaceful.

The grey-bearded man is a famous bandoneon (a kind of accordion) player. The other is a boxer. They should be the attraction of the party, one for connoisseurs, the other for the masses.

Both are mentally alien to each other. The one does not want to attract attention to himself. The other wants to taste to the full the little fame he has — in the pubs as well as with the women.

But the more alien they are to each other the quicker they get closer to one another as the annoyances pile up.

Lilienthal does not just add one thing after another in his film, he relys on the intermediate space, the atmosphere between the pictures.

The visible episodes are drawn in sharp outline, sometimes they are cut off short. This gives the appearance that happenings are less important than effects. The individual episodes are welded into an atmospheric mosaic. That which provokes emotions makes insights possible. Feelings are all-important, not just plain understanding.

What is it all about? Not just a suggestive story. It is not intended to create opinions. And it is not a spectacle.

The strength of Lilienthal's film is the authenticity of his two main characters.

It is possible to deduce from their bodies who and what they are. If you cannot have Robert de Niro then you have to be satisfied with actors who can make clear what they learn, experience and feel.

Argentinian Juan Jose Mosslini, a famous bandoneon player in the Argentine, embodies the bandoneon player, and the New York boxer Angel des Villar the boxer.

It is not important that they are what they play in the film. What is more important is that physically they have found a language for the roles they play.



The bandoneon player (left) and the boxer in *Das Autogramm* (Photo: Matthias-Film)

The bandoneon player goes like a dreamer through the film. He acts as if his dreams were to him a nightmare. He acts, but he does not lose his dreams.

His new friend, the boxer is a man of action to the bitter end. He thinks still of being a champion although he is through. He loses his fight. In the last frames of the film the smile on his face shows his unbroken determination. He is knocked down and beaten, but not defeated for long.

Das Autogramm is, on the one hand, a parable about everyday life in society as well as a political statement.

On the other the film is an adventurous presentation of delicate overtones. There are hidden nuances in small gestures and shamefaced glances. And there is a scream that ends up in silence.

Those who work on the boundaries of commercial cinema have a tough time for the greater the demands the smaller the audience. The few who are in this business still experiment, with the sets (Kluge), with the story line (Klick, Schilling and Thomé), with effects (Schroeter), with literary form (Achternbusch) or with photography (Wenders).

Peter Lilienthal has experimented with a new visual form on the genuine course of our times. He observes with considerable precision daily routine as well as the political condition of our world.

He gives us observers a feeling for ourselves, for our times as well as for our perspectives. The overtones that he creates are aimed directly at freedom of fantasy. At least how fantasy is threatened by everything when peace reigns in the land.

Norbert Grob

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 20 October 1984)

Mediocrity shows it talent at Mannheim festival

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

The film eye logo, symbol of Mannheim's international film week, used to be blue and white. But this year it was grey and black.

The colour change seems this year appropriate. There were few rays of light during the sixty hours in the Kino-Center.

Mediocrity dominated at the 33rd international film week. This was not entirely the fault of the films chosen, although there were as always some choices that were debatable. Other film festivals this year did not have a wealth of delight to present.

But organisations such as the one in Mannheim should not just think about artistic values. It should be concerned about information and communication and make it possible to get acquainted with work that cannot find a place in the commercial cinema

The range of films shown extended from Taiwan to Baden-Wurttemberg. This country's film bureau screened, as usual, new productions from its members, that have to be made without grants from Stuttgart

How important film festivals can be for young, unknown film directors was shown by the Indian film-maker Anand Patwardhan. He brough his first documentary film *Bombay, our City* to Mannheim.

He has concerned himself with the Bombay slums. He wanted to give the slum-dwellers courage when they are continually moved on by the police and to show them that they had a right to a place to live.

Patwardhan said he regarded his film as an "instrument for organisation". He will not make any new films in the next few years but will travel with a truck through India and screen the four films he has already made in the countryside and the city slums.

The film can be something else other than two pleasant hours in a cinema as is the case in the commercial cinema. Contracts with directors from the Third World makes that quite clear.

For many years Mannheim has been an important point of contact for both sides. This year there was a seminar with representatives from schools of filming from Asia, Africa and Latin America.

In the special competition for films from countries in the Third World there were contributions from Argentina, Brazil, Equador, India, Cameroun, Libanon and South Korea.

The promotional prize went to the Indian production *Fàta Morgana* by Mirad Mohapatra, the portrait of a large middle-class family torn between tradition and emancipation, and to the Lebanese director Heiny Srour for his film *Leila and the Wolf.* In a mixture of the real and the imaginary he drew a picture of the role the woman has to play in the latest events in Libanon and Palestine, concentrating on the domination of the male in Arab countries.

The international jury awarded the Grand Prize from the City of Mannheim for the best first film to the Austrian contribution, *Malambo,* by Milan Dor.

The film was about a young man from the countryside who goes to the city to find his good fortune. He wants to emulate the great escape artist Houdini, but he always falls on his face.

This can be seen as a parable as his efforts to raise himself up from the routine of daily life. The breezy face of the Yugoslav survivor is contrasted with the zest for life of working class Vienna. The film is a melancholy comedy with dry humour.

Various juries awarded five prizes to the Hungarian documentary *Our School.* The awards were recognition of the director Jozef Magyar's efforts to expose the shocking lack of improvements in his country's school system. From a film point of view the production was sterile. As with so many Mannheim contributions the viewer could only see heads talking.

In contrast to this was Wolfgang Landgraeber's portrait of the Black Forest town of Oberndorf. The film dealt reflectively with tradition and the present, and the fact that the town lives from exporting arms to sixty countries. *Fern vom Krieg* was awarded the prize for best TV film by the jury of the international film critics association and the Evangelical film committee.

The Josef Sternberg Prize for the most individual film was awarded to the Danish detective film *Das Element des Verbrechens* by Lars von Trier.

In the experimental film section *Außsenposten* from the West Berlin film and television academy came out top. Harmut Fittkau successfully gave a feeling of what the hot and cold war in Berlin is like in a series of fast-moving black and white frames that sometimes recalled Ruttmann.

On the positive side of the Mannheim film festival 1984 it should be recorded that after many years of absence East Germany contributed films.

Fronturlaub by Bernd Böhlich was a sensible, stylised student production from the Babelsberg Film College. There was much dispute about it by critics and public alike, but it deserved a place at the Mannheim festival as did Roland Steiner's documentary *Woran wir uns erinnern.*

This film was made up of statements from nine different people from the year 1949 and was a reflective production on the 35-year-long history of East Germany.

Heinz Kersten

(Der Tagesspiegel, 21 October 1984)

■ BEHAVIOUR

Lost for words: analysis of why people get stage-fright

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

Do you feel uneasy about having to speak in public? Most people do, at least now and again. But some, and not just professional speakers, seem blissfully unaware of stage fright.

They, the ones who seem almost to welcome an opportunity of speaking in public, owe their skill to having been lucky with their mother, the first person to give them a hearing as children.

They almost invariably report having had mothers who paid them attention, supported and encouraged them and took what they said as children seriously, according to findings reported in a book entitled *Sprechangst* (Fear of Speaking).

The importance of early favourable experience for later feelings about audiences is clear when people who aren't much worried about having to speak in public are compared with those who are.

Investigators expected the worriers to be more demanding and to expect more of themselves, but they weren't. They were neither self-assertive or keen to control others nor anxious to earn praise and recognition for their accomplishments.

They weren't any the more modest in what they felt themselves capable of doing either. Just like the less worried, they described themselves as impulsive, capable of enthusiasm and geared to independence and responsibility for themselves.

Only when they were questioned more closely on the extent to which they put their ideas into practice did they show signs of reactions indicating shyness and inhibition in seizing the social initiative.

The reasons for this inhibited behaviour must clearly be sought in a general fear of rejection or punishment even though, just like the unperturbed, they see themselves as friendly, sociable, warm-hearted and socially accomplished.

Yet they admitted to being sensitive, introverted and imaginative, and as a result more readily alarmed, inclined to have scruples, more easily upset and less self-controlled.

They were found to fluctuate in their moods, to have weak egos and to be more readily upset and insulted than non-worriers.

They owned up to being probably more mistrustful and moodier than others. They were more disconcerted than the unperturbed at departing from accepted standards and failing to reach targets such as being as intelligent or as popular as others.

These findings outlined in *Sprechangst*, published by Kohlhammer Verlag, of Stuttgart, and written by Reinholde Kriebel, are all the result of a long-term project backed by the Scientific Research Association (DFG).

The programme, under the heading Behavioural Modification, was conducted in various stages and using various methods. Dr Kriebel is a member of staff at the medical psychology unit of Essen University Hospital.

The head of department, Karl-Heinz Stäcker, coordinated the research programme. It included checks of 330 students from all departments of Marburg University, where Professor Stäcker used to work.

The first factor probed was what aspects of a speech situation contributed to which extent to fear of speaking: the size of the audience, its composition or the purpose of the speech.

Size appeared to be the crucial factor, a group of between 8 and 12 people being a crucial threshold beyond which fear of speaking is felt.

Least fear, upset and difficulty in speaking was felt not in speaking with one other person but with three; most apprehension was felt at the prospect of addressing audiences of over 500 people.

The purpose of the speech, such as voicing dissatisfaction, probing viewpoints, contradicting and informing, proved to be of minor significance except when verbal attack was the objective.

Dr Kriebel writes that speaking to a group triggers fear in itself. People who are particularly prone to fear of speaking then, but only then, tend to distinguish between audiences.

Worriers are more worried about addressing experts, political activists or university dons than about speaking to friends and acquaintances, for instance.

Unlike the mainly unperturbed, worriers don't need to feel they are under verbal attack to experience anxiety while speaking.

Any personal or less emotional behaviour, such as "voicing their own views," "being witty" or "contradicting someone," may be enough to trigger the feeling.

Women are generally more worried than men about public speaking, and they are more worried about addressing an all-male audience than one consisting entirely of women.

Men too are slightly more worried at the idea of addressing an all-female audience than others of their own sex.

But men's fear of addressing women is generally less than women's fear of addressing other women.

Laboratory experiments in which public speaking was simulated have clearly shown that public speaking, independently of the degree of fear experienced is indeed felt to be hard work and linked with symptoms of stress and agitation.

Test findings indicate that in stress periods, such as on being called on to make a speech and while preparing and delivering it, everyone feels under greater strain.

The greater strain is felt by worriers and non-worriers alike. Cardiac frequency increases. Changes in how people feel take the same course, differing merely in intensity.

Serious worriers feel even more anxious, upset, surprised, oppressed and less happy than the rest.

Their heartbeat and pulse rate may be the same as others' but they feel more agitated than others.

They also feel the audience takes a dim view of their showing at the rostrum.

That, in relative terms, is true, but the audience is not as ill-disposed toward them as they fear.

Conversely, those who feel less worried about speaking in public are felt by their audiences to be as at ease as they themselves feel.

Renate I. Mreschar

(Der Tagesspiegel, 14 October 1984)

Ancient Greeks teach lesson about music as therapy

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Pythagoras may or may not have been a music therapist, but Music in Medicine, the second international symposium on the subject held in Lüdenscheid, North Rhine-Westphalia, carried conviction.

Boethius, the early mediaeval philosopher, tells the tale of a Greek youth who had been driven to madness by Phrygian singing and was miraculously calmed down by having a certain song sung to him.

Regardless whether the tale sprang from fact or fiction, the Lüdenscheid gathering clearly showed that the idea behind it was not just a wild flight of fancy.

The modern mind must come to terms with the fact that knowledge gained in recent years by means of scientific methods and empirical scrutiny were common knowledge in Ancient Greece.

The paper read by Dr Willms, a psychotherapist, showed how keenly aware we have become of the double-edged effect of music as a medicine.

Music, he said, manipulated emotions and encouraged a reversion to oral-symbiotic experience.

This manipulation could trigger anxiety if the client had reason to fear the reversion. Besides, just as when nature cures were prescribed, no-one could exactly quantify effects and side-effects.

He concluded that the deliberate use of music as a drug constituted the offence of bodily harm. That promptly created an uproar.

Conference chairman Dr Droh, an anaesthetist, was obviously under a misunderstanding and patently upset by the idea that by playing music to patients to soothe them before surgery he was systematically violating their personality rights.

There can be very little doubt that this use of music is indeed a breach of personality rights, but isn't it fully justified by the success it achieves?

A survey at Hellersen sports clinic has shown that with a choice of four music programmes to be listened to before surgery, dosage of Psyquil or Thalamonal to calm the patient down can be halved.

Clinical and physiological data in no way worsen as a result, and patients themselves feel much better.

Given such self-evident benefits for the patient and hospital spending, it is surprising only that the combination of music and medicine is not more widespread.

Striking differences in judgement on the value and effect of music characterised the two opening papers, given by Eagle and Roederer.

Eagle, a music therapist from Dallas, Texas, said vibrations were the essence of everything and matter resulted from them. He gave a slide show to illustrate his point.

It compared biological and physical structures with the patterns of "frozen sound." He was convinced the similarity demonstrated how right he was.

He postulated an energy and information transfer in biological substructures in a state of vibration and defined human health in musical terms, saying the human instrument must be kept in tune.

This claim, and his assertion that energy organised matter, led to the next speaker accusing him of metaphysical speculation.

Roederer, a physicist, first asked why music existed. His evolutionary approach, including the neuro-physiological processing of stimuli caused by auditory sensations, led to the view that music transferred emotional states.

Unfortunately, and unlike the "informational states" of language, there were as yet no quantitative paradigms in terms of which to describe these states.

The paper by Tsunoda of Japan was expected to supply an interesting insight into the central processing of musical sound in the context of hemispherical brain research.

Speech used to be considered mainly an activity of the left-hand side of the brain, whereas music was assumed to be handled by the right-hand side, assuming the left to work analytically and the right to work synthetically and holistically.

Since discovering and using the key tapping method in the 1960s, Tsunoda has come across striking distinctions in dominance patterns between Japanese and non-Japanese.

Among Japanese he found the centres of reason and emotion to be located in the speech half of the brain, the left-hand side, whereas other nationalities drew a clear distinction between them. He attributes the difference to the Japanese way of life, characterised by harmony with nature, careful handling of emotions and acceptance of illogicality.

Tsunoda infers from the abundance

Continued on page 13

■ MEDICINE

Nobel Prize for revolution that nearly got away

DIE ZEIT

A German immunologist, Georges Köhler, of Freiburg, shares with a Briton and a Dane this year's Nobel Prize for Medicine.

Dr Köhler, who is 38, was interviewed by the writer last spring in Basle, Switzerland. He emerged bearded from a laboratory in a half-open warehouse but revealing a sports shirt and jeans.

"I don't envy you at all," he said gently at the Basle Institute of Immunology, "having to write about monoclonal antibodies for the general public. But maybe this chart will help."

He pulled out of his pocket a sheet of paper folded down to vest-pocket size. It did help. The science page of the 11 May 1984 issue of *Die Zeit* featured an article entitled "Monoclonal Antibodies are the Wonder Weapons of Modern Medicine."

It ended with the forecast: "At present the Max Planck Society is keen to get him. If Köhler does go to Freiburg to head the immunological institute a biologist working in Germany might be in line for a Nobel Prize again."

He still works in Basle but since the New Year has been director of the Max Planck Institute of Immunology in Freiburg. He is now, at 38, Germany's youngest Nobel laureate.

He was born in Munich on 17 April 1946. He shares the DM577,000 Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology with two much older colleagues.

They are Niels Jerne, born in 1911 in London of Danish parents, and Argentine-born naturalised Briton Cesar Milstein.

Professor Jerne headed until 1980 the Basle Institute of Immunology he set up and ran as a research oasis backed by the cash and resources of drug manufacturers Hoffmann-La Roche.

Jerne was Köhler's boss until he retired. The father of modern immunology, he devised in the 1960s a laboratory test that was a crucial prerequisite for Köhler's award-winning research.

Professor Milstein was born in Bahia Blanca, Argentina, in 1927. In the mid-1970s, as head of the molecular biology research laboratory in Cambridge, England, he offered postgraduate student Köhler crucial encouragement and support.

In Cambridge he had the backing and the intellectual environment that enabled him to make a key discovery in modern medicine, that of substances known as monoclonal antibodies.

The revolution went almost unnoticed, as so often in science. On 17 May 1975 Köhler and Milstein submitted a report to *Nature* in London, which published it on 7 August.

In the final sentence the two scientists noted that their new cell cultures "could prove useful in medical and industrial work." This forecast turned out to be one of the greatest understatements in modern science.

Now, nine years later, over two dozen children with what used to be a lethal form of leukaemia owe their health and survival to monoclonal antibodies.

Clinical diagnosis and forensic science are undergoing revolutionary changes as a result of the new substances. In pharmacies one of the most sensitive, simple and reliable pregnancy tests available is based on monoclonal antibodies.

Scientists and doctors specialising in a wide range of subjects are successfully using the "wonder weapons" devised by Köhler and Milstein on new fronts of knowledge.

Industry too benefits from "monoclonals." By 1987 world turnover is expected to exceed DM1.5bn.

Dr Köhler is as unperturbed by this landslide as he is by the news that he has won the Nobel Prize. His colleague Professor Klaus Eichmann of the Freiburg Max Planck institute calls him a quiet, modest man.

Instead of marketing his discovery for all it was worth (for which he had ample opportunity) he preferred to stick to scientific research and continues to marshal outstanding research on how the immune system goes in detail about its job of warding off germs and harmful substances.

He is also keenly interested, says Professor Eichmann, in architecture and in refurbishing old houses. He keeps his wife Claudia and three children out of the limelight.

Claudia Köhler was with her husband at the time he made his crucial discovery, which is uncommon enough for the wife of a modern scientist.

His pathway to success was felt worthy by *Science*, the US magazine, of a three-page article on a "revolution in the making."

"Köhler's idea," the magazine wrote, "was basically quite simple, but it probably would never have occurred to anyone else who had not traced the same intellectual and experimental steps as he had."

The beginnings were unspectacular, as is much about Georges Jean Franz Köhler, to give him his full name.

His mother was French, his father German, and he grew up in Kehl, the German town on the opposite bank of the Rhine to Strasbourg.



Here's to immunity . . . Köhler (left) and Jerne celebrate their Nobel Prize for Medicine. (Photo: dpa)

He studied biology in Freiburg where, in a lecture given by someone or other (he can't remember just who), he suddenly realised there was something other than bacteria — immunology.

He asked cellular immunologist Professor Fritz Melchers whether he would give him a PhD thesis and be his *Doktorvater*. Melchers agreed, starting Köhler on his way to Nobel honours.

He took Köhler, then a 25-year-old student, with him to Basle and the newly-founded Institute of Immunology, which he took over from Niels Jerne in 1980.

Far away from the red tape of German university life, Köhler as the first postgraduate student at what is now a world-famous research facility, set about a tricky immunological problem.

To solve it he needed particularly long-lived and genetically identical cells from the immune system of mice.

As these B cells with the required properties were unknown, Köhler stubbornly decided to fashion them himself.

Melchers advised him to try his luck with immunologist Cesar Milstein in Cambridge. Before leaving for Cambridge Köhler jokingly said to a friend: "In Cambridge I am going to merge cells and create antibodies." It was a joke that was to come true.

He began with a frustrating few months in which he tried in vain to breed certain cancer cells under laboratory conditions to produce a specific immunological antibody.

Professor Milstein made a suggestion, but it wasn't to Köhler's liking. He was determined to find what he envisaged as an "immortal" cell line supplying a specific antibody.

In bed, shortly before falling asleep, he suddenly had an idea. Suddenly he was wide awake, couldn't get to sleep and spent the whole night thinking.

The next morning he outlined his idea to his wife at breakfast, while in the laboratory he found Professor Milstein in the cellar among the cell cultures and told him too.

The idea could hardly have been simpler. He wanted to try and fuse healthy B cells, white blood corpuscles, with myeloma cancer cells.

The resulting hybrid would produce B cell antibodies that would breed en masse like tumour cells and be identical with the parent cell.

They would, in other words, be monoclonal and the antibodies they produced would all have the same properties and could be let loose, like a pack of hounds, at undesirable cancer cells, viruses and other such substances.

Köhler's idea was put into practice 10 years ago, just before Christmas 1974. One evening he asked his wife to join him in the laboratory as he checked his test cells, using a test devised by his Nobel co-laureate Professor Jerne.

"I felt it was so boring going on my own through an entire pile of samples that had failed to deliver the goods," he recalls. He had no illusions of striking paydirt overnight.

But when they held the first test plates up to the light in the laboratory cellar they noticed bright spots round some of the newly-created hybrids. The experiment had succeeded!

"It was incredible. I was jubilant, kissed my wife, was beside myself. It was more than I could possibly have hoped for."

The rest is science history, and maybe Georges Köhler's Nobel Prize will trigger a new and entirely different trend.

He is not the only outstanding postwar German scientist. There are more like him. If German research officials have failed to spot them they have probably moved abroad, even if it is only just across the border to Basle.

Annelies Furtmayr-Schuh/Günter Haaf

(Die Zeit, 19 October 1984)

Music as therapy

Continued from page 12

of vowels in Japanese that emotion and the faculty of speech take shape in the same half of the brain, the speech half.

Traditional Japanese instrumental music (unlike Western music) is, he says, also evaluated on the left-hand side of the brain on account of its acoustic similarity to speech and its inharmonic structure.

Careful analysis is needed to consider what repercussions these findings may have for our cultural understanding of ourselves.

There was not enough time for that during the two days of the symposium, with over 25 papers (a third of which were given in English), parallel workshops and demonstrations.

The proceedings were constantly pushed for time and under pressure as a result of last-minute changes.

Next year, in connection with the first international congress on Music in Medicine, there are plans to visit places where medicine was practised in the Ancient World.

As so often in the chequered history of Central Europe, a renaissance seems imminent — at least in music as medicine.

It promises indeed to be a worldwide recollection of an approach that seemed to have been forgotten and a revival of human qualities that have lain dormant.

This is more than just the expression of a sentimental reminiscence.

It is, many speakers admitted off the record, a bid to restore the unity of art and science and surmount the Cartesian distinction between a soulless body and an incorporeal soul.

The proceedings of the symposium are to be published in book form.

Dieter Weinert

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 15 October 1984)

■ THE ENVIRONMENT

Slower traffic suggested as pollution-cutting measure

The Bonn government plans a major investigation to see if environmental damage from car exhausts can be reduced by reducing driving speeds. Speed limit opposers fear there will be more tailbacks and therefore more exhaust fumes. Supporters maintain that at 100 kilometres an hour traffic would be both quieter and safer.

West Germany is the only industrialised country in the western world that has no motorway speed limit. Discussions about a limit of 100 kilometres an hour (about 62 mph) have intensified since tree deaths through environmental pollution became a national issue.

To many a speed limit seems an immediate answer to the damage done by nitric oxide in exhaust gases. Catalytic converters do not have to be fitted to cars until 1989. It is now being asked if West Germany should go it alone as regards speeds until this date.

Opponents of speed limits, the car industry for instance, maintain that the nitric oxide content of car exhaust gases would only be reduced by six per cent at a speed limit of 100 kilometres.

The environmental protection office, however, says that of the approximately one milion tonnes of nitric oxide emitted into the air in a year a speed limit would reduce this figure by 182,000 tonnes, or more than 18 per cent.

Does it follow, then, that with a speed limit there would be more tail-backs on motorways and as a consequence more poisonous gases emitted into the air?

Professor Karl-Heinz Lenz, head of the road accident research department in Bergisch Gladbach is quite certain: with speed limits of 100 kilometres per hour there would not be tail-backs on motorways, he said.

In an investigation commissioned by the Bundesrat in 1977 named "Project 130" it was confirmed that a speed limit of 130 kilometres per hour "would not have a great effect on traffic flow". That is true for 100 kilometres as well.

Lenz goes even further: "A speed limit of 100 kilometres improves traffic flow, particularly in dense traffic." At high speeds vehicles require more road space (more distance between cars and longer braking distances) than when traffic is moving slower.

Furthermore, he added, motorways could take more traffic at slower speeds so there would not be long lines of cars held up.

Professor Lenz maintains that reduced speeds would bring about a situation as in North American built-up areas with traffic moving quieter and without impediment.

According to the traffic accident research department this would mean that for various reasons there would be an increase in safety on motorways. Speeds would adjust so that accident-prone "very fast" and "very slow" would disappear.

The traffic flow would be regular and there would be no difficulties in overtaking, which in the main would not be necessary.

Dangerous slow drivers would also adjust. In traffic that travelled at the same speed for everyone they would no longer have an uneasy feeling; they would drive more calmly in the traffic stream, according to Lenz, more smoothly than they dare do in the current hectic traffic flow.

Driving at slow speeds for long periods also aids concentration and prevents falling asleep behind the wheel. In the 1977 investigation it was confirmed that "drivers were more swiftly fatigued when driving at high speeds for long periods of time on motorways." Furthermore drivers do settle down to longer travelling times.

Then there is the argument that speed limits that would be of advantage to forest protection would have to be controlled, adding to the work of police personnel.

There is automatic radar control already to register and control speed limit violations on the Cologne-Frankfurt motorway — without any personnel on the roadway. Technology can be introduced in this way to ensure that speed limits are adhered to — and used to aid the injured forests.

In the discussion on speed limits it has become obvious that one consideration is that not only can the trees be saved but also human life.

The road accident research department maintained in a hearing in Bonn dealing with road safety in the capital that a speed limit of 100 kilometres on motorways would reduce road deaths by 250 and it could be expected that if there was a limit to 80 kilometres on trunk roads 1,000 lives would be saved.

It should not be forgotten that between December 1972 and March 1983 there were 4,662 accidents involving persons on trunk roads, of which 327 lost their lives and 2,176 were seriously injured.

In the same time period in the following year there were only 2,615 accidents involving people with 185 road deaths and 1,135 seriously injured.

The reason why these figures were almost halved is the oil crisis at the end of 1973/1974 when limits of 100 kilometres were applied on motorways and 80 kilometres on trunk roads. These limitations were later lifted.

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

After much passionate discussion the SPD-FDP coalition brought the speed on trunk roads back to 100 kilometres and introduced a "recommended" 130 kilometres on motorways.

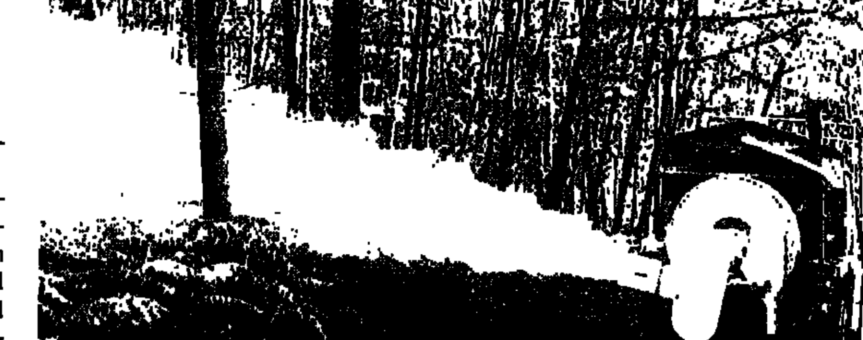
There is no doubt among scientific experts that speed limits would make roads and motorways safer and produce less exhaust gases that harm forests. It is only among politicians that there is discussion about how much safer and cleaner motoring would be with a speed limit of 100 kilometres.

What is not disputed is that a motorist travelling from A to B on a motorway would need more time at a speed of 100 kilometres (from Cologne to Kolenz it would take nine minutes longer).

That is about the only consequence of a speed limit of 100 kilometres about which no one disagrees. Most other arguments dance around taking a very black outlook, unproved allegations and slick speculation.

Ingmar Keller

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 9 October 1984)



Bid to help trees recover

This truck is pumping out a magnesium carbonate compound under high pressure in an effort to reduce acidity and rescue dying trees. The experiment is being tried near Recklinghausen, North Rhine-Westphalia. (Photo: [illegible])

Still disagreement about what is killing Europe's forests

Half of all West German forest land is diseased, according to figures issued by Agriculture Minister Ignaz Kiechle.

Atmospheric pollution is also taking its toll in other European countries.

According to a survey by the newsagency, Reuters, the damage is in some cases as bad as in West Germany.

But there is disagreement in the European Community about the cause of the damage.

For example the French propose to reduce the emission of sulphur dixide into the air by fifty per cent by 1990 as compared with 1980. But the French, contrary to the West Germans, do not think it is necessary to make it obligatory to fit cars with catalytic converters.

The European Commissioner responsible for environmental protection issued basic Standards for the Control of Industrial Exhaust Gases in March. But the guidelines stopped at the point of laying down limits. New or re-constructed power stations must, indeed, not exceed certain limits, but these limits are to be regulated nationally.

There are more than 35 billion hectares of forest in the European Community. According to a statement by a Community spokesman there is considerable forest damage in Denmark, France, North Italy, Greece and the Netherlands. There is no information available from the other countries.

Belgium has 626,000 hectares of forest and official statements have been made to the effect that there is considerable damage, but actual figures are not to hand.

In the smallest European Community country, Luxembourg, the government has said that almost 30 per cent of trees over sixty years of age have been damaged by acid rain.

Luxembourg has 82,000 hectares of forest which covers a third of the land area of 2,800 square kilometres that make up the Grand Duchy. The government is in favour of every measure to reduce air pollution and particularly the introduction of lead— free petrol.

There is considerable concern in France now about the damage done by acid rain, but France rejected the first reports made in the early 1980s on the subject of dying forests.

According to government reports a tenth of the forests in the Vosages [illegible] ailing — in the previous year only a [illegible] areas were affected. Now the posi[illegible] has worsened.

The main aim is to reduce sulphur [illegible] oxide pollution, reducing emissions [illegible] 1990 to fifty per cent of the levels [illegible] 1980. By 1989 lead-free petrol sho[illegible] be available and controls on exh[illegible] gases from motor vehicles tightened [illegible] France takes the view that tightening [illegible] controls on cars can achieve the re[illegible] without catalytic converters.

Emissions of sulphur dioxide and [illegible] ric oxide from Danish power p[illegible] have, according to a committee of [illegible] Environmental Protection Min[illegible] been responsible for polluting the [illegible] and lakes in central Sweden and to [illegible] mited extent southern Norway. [illegible] committee recommended a reducti[illegible] sulphur dioxide emissions from De[illegible] industrial flues.

The British government is coming [illegible] der increasing pressure to limit air [illegible] lution. Britain, Europe's largest sul[illegible] dioxide polluter, is threatened by po[illegible] cal isolation within the European Co[illegible] munity according to European envir[illegible] mental protectionists. The British [illegible] ernment, however, wants to investi[illegible] further the causes of the pollution.

Here there is a contradiction. [illegible] from all parties are angered at the [illegible] ernment's inactivity. They demand [illegible] sulphur dioxide emissions should be [illegible] back by thirty per cent by 1990 and sixty per cent by 1995.

The country's state-owned energ[illegible] ganisation, the Central Electricity G[illegible] erating Board, must bear the main b[illegible] en. To introduce proposals curr[illegible] being made would cost two bi[illegible] pounds sterling but a third less sulp[illegible] dioxide is emitted than in 1970.

There are contradictory official [illegible] gures in neutral Austria about the [illegible] mage done to forests by air pollu[illegible] According to the Austrian Agricu[illegible] Ministry the damage affects 340[illegible] hectares of the country's 3.75 mil[illegible] hectares of forestlands.

On the other hand a spokesman [illegible] the Lower Austrian state governm[illegible] spoke of 600,000 hectares of for[illegible] "badly damaged". The spokesman ma[illegible]

Continued on page 15

HORIZONS

Turkish woman graduates to become a detective in West Berlin



Stepping out. Tülin Önal receives her police academy graduation certificate. (Photo: dpa)

Tülin Önal is the first Turkish woman to become a detective in West Germany. The 27-year-old daughter of a Gastarbeiter from Istanbul came with her family to Germany 22 years ago.

Her dark, curly hair and fawn-coloured eyes are not sure-fire giveaways of her background. Only her beautiful, fine facial features perhaps show that.

Frau Önal's success cannot be counted as a successful case of integration of foreigners in West Berlin because her family is not typical.

Mannheimer Morgen

Most of the more than 100,000 Turks in the city comes from the small towns and villages on the high plains of Anatolia. For them central Europe is a stranger world than it was for the Önal family.

The Önals came, by contrast, from Istanbul, a modern metropolis. The father began as a cleaner, but it soon became clear that the family was intelligent and industrious and knew what they wanted.

They wanted to stay in West Germany, so they avoided the West Berlin Turkish ghetto of Kreuzberg and went instead to live in the new area of Gropius Stadt.

Tülin's 35-year-old brother, Fikret, who is a civil engineer at Tempelhof airport, says: "Success depends on people individually. We didn't have it any harder than the Germans. And we made the effort quickly to get to know both the language and the mentality. It has paid off."

The second brother, Kemal, 33, has also gained a firm professional foothold. He is an interpreter for the criminal police.

Detective Tülin Önal first thought about becoming a detective when she began work on the secretarial staff of the criminal police's interrogation section. She had passed her Abitur (final school-leaving examination) and had spent some semesters studying law at West Berlin's Free University. In 1981, she got a place at the police academy and after three years has graduated as a detective. Last year, she completed a prerequisite for a place in the force as a detective - she became a citizen of the Federal Republic. Will her origins make her work more difficult? She says not. She expects advantages. One for example is the obvious one of knowing the Turkish language and customs in an area where there are a high proportion of Turkish people.

Although her knowledge of Turkish customs will help her to understand why the law is sometimes broken — for example in cases of male machismo — she emphasises that crime is crime.

She not only has taken out German citizenship, but she also feels German. Her circle of Turkish friends in West Berlin is small, but she returns to Turkey for holidays. Her sister is married and lives in Istanbul.

Tülin herself still lives with her parents. Her mother, aged 62, says: "I'm frightfully proud of my clever little girl.

Her clever little girl blocks any questions that she considers too inquisitive. She doesn't want to suffer the fate the some years ago befell the fate of the first Turkishborn policeman in West Berlin.

It was a sensation. The man gave interviews to everybody and became so celebrated in the Turkish community that he changed his mind and never reappeared for duty.

A police spokesman says today: "He was only 18 years old and could not handle it all."

However, this is hardly likely to be the fate of Frau Önal. She has begun work at a police station: "There are three women here working with 11 men," she says, an emancipated woman worlds removed from the many Turkish women who dare not go on to the streets of West Berlin without a headscarf.

"The men outnumber us, but we don't feel inferior," she says.

And there is no reason to. In West Berlin, women policemen are on the ascendancy. Besides Detective Önal, 27 graduated as criminal detectives; 19 of the graduates were women.

Liselotte Müller

(Mannheimer Morgen, 18 October 1984)

Continued from page 14

[illegible]ned that 80 per cent of the damage was done by Austrian concerns.

In Switzerland investigations are currently in progress to assess the damage done to forests, and the results will be available in December, according to the Swiss forestry commission.

According to government figures there has been a considerable increase in damage done to Swiss forestry since the autumn of 1983 when 14 per cent of woodlands were in jeopardy. Increasingly deciduous and fruit trees are being affected.

As from 1985 the Swiss plan to introduce a speed limit of 120 kilometres per hour on motorways and 80 kiklometres on trunk roads. *rtr*

(Allgemeine Zeitung Mainz, 17 October 1984)

Police car siren, flashing light, often dangerous, says report

Flashing blue lights and wailing sirens as used by the German police can be both a hindrance to police work and downright dangerous, says a report in a police magazine.

Two authorities, writing in *Polizeispiegel*, say that both forms of signal are often used when unimportant offences are involved.

This, they say, puts both the police and other traffic in danger.

One Stuttgart police area is quoted as having last year 33 serious accidents involving police vehicles using the flashing blue light and siren. In 18 of these cases, the police were to blame.

There were cases of police vehicles running into roadside ditches, driving at speed into trees, and ramming uninvolved vehicles.

Authors of the report say that this all happened because the police believed that the signals automatically gave them protection in traffic.

Investigation of three sirens on the market revealed that some could not be heard just 60 metres away, especially in heavily built-up areas and where traffic noise was high.

General-Anzeiger

It was also impossible to establish in what direction the siren could or could not be heard.

The authors were critical of the police habit of going to minor accidents using the signals: "What do they hope to achieve?" they write. "The accident has already happened."

Even using flashing light and siren on the way to bank robberies is warned against. This could, for example, put the criminal under psychological pressure and perhaps cause him to take hostages, thus worsening the situation.

Karl Habermann

(General-Anzeiger Bonn, 15 October 1984)